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See Page 14 for details of our weekly Competition...

Captain Tom Clarke is remembered
Page 3

NATIONAL EYE HEALTH WEEK
22 – 28 September 2014 • See Page 17

'Vale audiences the best ever'

International musicians' verdict on local schools

Y Bont Faen Primary youngsters with Tri i Dve.

THE Cowbridge Music Festival is now in full swing – "and so far it is going brilliantly," organisers report – audiences numbers were up and the musicians are world-class.

Last week, a group of musicians visited five schools in the Vale to give concerts and workshops.

Tri i Dve, an eastern European folk band, played for more than 1,000 pupils at Cowbridge Comprehensive School, Y Bont Faen Primary School, Gladstone Primary School, Eagleswell Primary School and Rhws Primary School.

Felix Froschhammer, a violinist who has performed all over the world and is a member of Tri I Dve, said: "We have never had so much fun giving concerts as we have had here in the Vale. These were the best audiences ever!"

The community outreach programme is seen as one of the most important aspects of this young music festival. The director's aim is to ensure that every child in the Vale gets access to live classical music, organisers say.

The festival continues with the Chiaroscuro Quartet today (September 18), big band jazz tomorrow, and Septura brass ensemble on Saturday.

Co-op moving in

THE Co-op has announced that it will be opening a foodstore in Cowbridge High Street – in the premises vacant since Spar closed.

However, a Co-op spokesman told The GEM this week that a post office would not be included.

The store – which is expected to open in early November, will have a sales area of around 2,000 sq ft and will create 20 new and part-time jobs.

The Co-op described it as a "convenience store with a strong emphasis on fresh produce".

- ***A Post Office spokeswoman said yesterday that they were still investigating options that will reinstate a post office in the town.***

SISTERS' HALF MARATHON CHALLENGE...

in loving memory of little Rhianna Gallagher aged four

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

THREE Cowbridge sisters are to run the Cardiff Half Marathon in memory of their four-year-old cousin, who died earlier this year from a brain haemorrhage.

Little Rhianna Gallagher died in an Oxford hospice and Sophie Gallagher (19) and her sisters Rachael (21) and Niamh (17) are keen to raise funds for the hospice.

On February 14, Rhianna suffered a haemorrhage and was rushed to the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford.

A week later the life support system was switched off because she was too badly brain damaged.

Her father, Dominic, said: "We all said our goodbyes – our eternal goodbyes. But no one had asked Rhianna.

"She decided she was not ready to go and soon started breathing properly by herself.

"The next day, she was transferred to Helen House – the east Oxford hospice where she spent the last weeks of her life."

Rhianna died on Easter Monday, was buried at Kennington Cemetery and in Dominic's words "tended daily by a sad hand and watered by tears".

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4).

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Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, Don John, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

LETTERS AND E-MAILS MUST INCLUDE FULL ADDRESS AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER

IMPORTANT: We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. An email address alone is not sufficient! We will (*in certain circumstances*)protect a writer's identity, if requested.

The threat facing Vale rural libraries

AS your readers will know, the Vale Council has published a library strategy which recommends that each of the libraries at St Athan, Dinas Powys, Sully, Wenvoe and Rhoose should be run as community libraries.

I've read the document Vale of Glamorgan library review – revised July 2014, which outlines the proposals.

This document, which is on the Vale Council website, also contains the report on the consultation from the end of 2013, which asked if respondents would be willing to help their local library: "In order to extend and improve our library services we may need to increase the number of volunteers… Volunteers would not replace paid members of staff."

Up to 28 per cent of respondents apparently said they would be happy to carry out various different roles.

The council seem to have taken this fairly paltry response as the green light to proceed with proposals to withdraw funding and cut staff, leaving local communities with an inferior library service, staffed by those same communities.

Bad enough you might think. However, the proposal for community libraries goes on to acknowledge that: "A community partner will need to be identified. If not then closure must be considered as a possible option."

People will form their own conclusions about whether the council has misrepresented our previous consultation responses and is actually planning library closures by the back door.

Having been asked to volunteer to help to extend and improve the service where we would not replace paid staff, we are now faced at best, with paid staff being replaced by volunteers, and at worst, with the closure and total loss of our local library service.

Anybody who is concerned about the loss of our local library services should make sure they submit a response to the further consultation,which will run from October until Christmas.

Anyone who has already written should resubmit their views as part of the consultation as the council has intimated that those views might not be taken into account.

People might also want to make their views known to their local councillors and join any local groups to share ideas to resist these proposals – eg the 'Save Rhoose Library' group on Facebook.

Adam Riley, East Aberthaw

'FRENCH SHOULD CLOSE HAVEN'

WHY doesn't France put all illegal immigrants on the first plane out of France and take them back to their own country?

Instead, the French ignore them, giving them (or some of them) chances to get over to Britain by any means. This haven has gone on long enough, with nothing done by the French authorities!

Mr and Mrs Haley, Llantwit Major.

The GEM played its part!

THANK you for publishing the article on our World War One exhibition in the August 21 issue of The GEM. We are pleased to report that the exhibition was a great success and thanks to the publicity given in The GEM, we had visitors from across the Vale and beyond.

Frank Hartles and Keith Edwards, Aberthin.

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'Residents must guard against premature planning applications'

WE are now in a phase of the Vale of Glamorgan planning process where landowners and developers are submitting premature planning applications to the Vale Council in the five-year window of time after the Unitary Development Plan period (1996-2011) has expired and before the Local Development Plan (2011-2026) is adopted.

This means that the council planning committee, guided by the planning officers, have to make a judgement on whether to refuse, defer or approve each application, and what weight to give to the policies in the expired UDP (which can still be used for planning control purposes) and those of the emerging LDP – which has just reached the end of the consultation stage, involving huge effort by the council and residents, prior to submission to the National Assembly and the Inspector's independent examination and report.

The plan is then due to be adopted by October 2016. Deferment or refusal of an application usually leads to an appeal followed by an inquiry.

This situation has arisen because the council is five years behind in the planning process, caused partly by the scrapping of the 2012 LDP draft and replacing it and the 37 Background Papers by a revised version in 2013, following a change in council leadership after the 2012 council elections.

Landowners and developers have taken advantage of this window because it gives them the chance to seek planning approval without having to wait for the examination of the deposit LDP by an independent Planning Inspector, avoiding the risk that their sites might not be included in the adopted plan.

This situation is particularly acute in the rural Vale, where disproportionately large developments are proposed.

Premature planning applications have already been made in Ystradowen, Colwinston, Wick, Ogmore by Sea, Llantwit Major, Wenvoe and Cowbridge at Primrose Hill, with another signalled for Darren Farm by the end of the year.

Local communities wishing to oppose such developments need to be vigilant and prompt in opposing these premature applications with sound planning reasons.

The Primrose Hill application and appeal has led to a public inquiry scheduled for September 23 – 26 at Barry Dock Office, where a good public attendance would show support for the residents' case.

Chris Pearce, Cowbridge.

'Police the speed limit'

I WRITE with reference to the Vale Council's notice of amendment of the speed limit to 50mph on the A4226 Port Road, as published in The GEM on Thursday, September 11.

I hope this new speed limit will be policed better than the 50mph speed limit on the B4265 bypass around Llantwit Major, to minimise the number of vehicles that constantly exceed the limit (especially motorcycles) creating excessive noise for the hundreds of residents whose properties are located adjacent to the bypass.

Douglas Mountain, Llantwit Major.

Travellers' site

I HAVE been receiving a lot of calls lately relating to the travellers' site in Sully; there are far too many to respond to each one, but I would like to let everybody know that I have made a note of what has been said.

I will bear these comments in mind for when this matter is being discussed.

Coun Richard Bertin, Independent, Vale of Glamorgan Council.

Craig Penllyn's village hay rake

DID your readers know a staggering 97 per cent of meadows have been lost across this country in the last 75 years?

The parish field in Craig Penllyn is one such important habitat, and is highly regarded for its rare mix of plant life and vegetation.

The field was granted SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) status in 2011 for its rare grassland, and more recently was listed as a Coronation Meadow, a scheme backed by HRH Prince of Wales, and is one of only a handful of fields in Wales to be granted such status.

To help the field to maintain its status, each year the villagers of Penllyn and Craig Penllyn cut and remove the vegetation from the field, a process that helps to encourage the growth of the existing plant communities.

This year's village hay rake will take place at 10am on Sunday, September 21, and the community is calling on any other volunteers to remove the cut vegetation. All you need to bring is your rake, some gardening gloves and be willing. Every little bit helps!

For more information about the hay rake, contact Dave Hughes (kezdave@gmail.com) or visit the Penllyn and Craig Penllyn village website for more information on the parish field.

Dave Hughes, Craig Penllyn.

My Crafternoon raised £1,050!

I WOULD like to use The GEM to thank the numerous people who helped me raise over £1,050 for the Back to Sea Project at Sunday's Crafternoon tea in Ystradowen.

I came across this organisation last year, while visiting Bantayan Island in the Philippines, and have raised funds since my return to the UK.

Thank you to all those who attended the event and spent their money so freely: Sorrento for providing the very essential crockery, St Hilary WI for their donation, The GEM for their coverage and publicity, as well as Jane Hutt AM for her support and donation, and the husbands who helped us set up.

The event could not have taken place without my friends from Cowbridge Stitch&Bitch, Cutting Edge and Glamorgan Quilters who tirelessly baked, prepared sandwiches, worked hard in the kitchen, taught and demonstrated crafts, ran the crafts to sale stall, ran the raffle, laid tables, cleared tables, moved chairs and tables, took down bunting...

There has to be a special mention for Jackie Roberts, who prepared and ran the raffle and Monica Dennis, who is inspirational in so many ways. Thank you all.

Hilary Carney, Cowbridge.

HISTORY IN THE MAKING

THE area surrounding and following the Five Mile Lane and Weycock Cross is steeped in ancient history and the history of man here can be traced back around 6,500 years from flint arrowheads and other archaeological finds.

Sadly, due to lack of knowledge, careless development and the urgency to go from rural agricultural settlements to busy dockland in a very short time, evidence of early occupation of the area has been destroyed.

The likelihood of treasures yet to be discovered has gradually been wiped out as the town has grown. We are now at the boundary, with applications in to dig up the remaining areas.

It is believed Five Mile Lane would have been the main route into what we now call Barry from early settlements.

Ancient tracks are evident, which are most likely prehistoric.

If development goes ahead at the Weycock Cross area and Five Mile Lane, we will almost certainly be destroying the last of our ancient history – and all for housing estates that are only happy to give the new residents a 10-year warranty.

It makes you think, doesn't it?

Sue Eldridge, Barry.

Balloons threat to animal life

I WAS horrified to read in my GEM newspaper that the Church in Wales and CADW were planning to release balloons from St Nicholas Church on September 13.

For many years, I have supported the Marine Conservation Society's campaign to stop balloon releases, because they do so much harm.

I have often found the remains of balloons and their ribbons on beaches when carrying out litter picks.

When balloons and sky lanterns (formerly known as Chinese lanterns) are released, they don't just disappear.

They float back down to earth where they are the same as any other litter.

But balloons and sky lanterns are particularly dangerous pieces of litter. Balloons are mistaken for food by many species of wildlife, especially turtles.

Once balloons have been eaten, they can block digestive systems and cause animals to starve.

The string on balloons can also entangle and trap animals.

Four county councils in Wales are enlightened enough to ban releases: Caerphilly County Borough Council, Conwy County Borough Council, Neath Port Talbot Council, and Pembrokeshire County Council.

I beg GEM readers not to release balloons or Sky Lanterns – I'm sure you wouldn't normally contemplate throwing hundreds of bits of coloured plastic on to the countryside and into the sea!

There are so many better ways to celebrate, publicise, or run competitions. *See http://www.mcsuk.org*

Annie Paine, Llantwit Major.

HIGH TIDE TIMES
(UNTIL SEPTEMBER 25)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
18 Thur	02.11	7.4	14.55	7.6
19 Fri	03.43	7.5	16.12	7.7
20 Sat	04.44	7.9	17.07	8.3
21 Sun	05.31	8.4	17.52	8.8
22 Mon	06.11	8.9	18.27	9.2
23 Tues	06.47	9.3	19.01	9.4
24 Wed	07.19	9.5	19.31	9.6
25 Thur	07.51	9.8	20.04	9.9

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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SOMBRE MOMENT AS NAME ADDED TO WAR MEMORIAL

Philip Ryles completing the inscription for Capt Tom Clarke.

UNTIL this week, the last names on the War Memorial in Cowbridge belonged to soldiers who fell in the Second World War.

Sadly, that changed when the inscription, Capt Thomas E Clarke, AAC, was added by letter cutter Philip Ryles. Tom Clarke, a former Cowbridge Comprehensive School pupil, died in April when his helicopter crashed while on duty in Afghanistan.

Staff from MoD St Athan were on hand to take this photograph, and a spokeswoman said: "So very sad, a great loss to his family and his community, but his name will live on.

"He will be remembered with great affection and with great pride alongside all the other men who have given their lives so that we may be free."

Primrose Hill protesters to put their case at the inquiry

Report by **PHILIP IRWIN**

RESIDENTS in Cowbridge who are opposed to plans to build houses at Primrose Hill will be heading to Barry next week for a public inquiry.

The inquiry became inevitable when the United Welsh Housing Association launched an appeal after the scheme was turned down by the Vale Council's planning committee.

So, the opposition group, who have chosen the name 'Gateway to Cowbridge', will be heading for the Docks Office, Barry, next Tuesday, September 23, at 10am. The appeal is expected to last four days.

The housing association wants to build 79 houses, with 60 per cent 'affordable' and the remaining 40 per cent to be built by the Charles Church building group.

Gateway to Cowbridge argues that houses should not be built on a greenfield site that has never been designated for housing.

They have been offered support by the Regional AM Andrew RT Davies, who said: "I have long held the view that development on this scale would be completely inappropriate for the local area.

"Not only would it place unsustainable pressure on the local infrastructure and services, it would permanently rob us of much-loved and vital green spaces.

"Local residents oppose the development and I sincerely hope that the Welsh Government-appointed planning inspector will take into consideration the views of the community and county councillors, all of whom oppose it."

WHAT'S ON / *in brief*

Senior Citizens

THE Cowbridge Senior Citizens are meeting at Lesser Hall, Town Hall, Cowbridge today (Thursday, September 18) at 2pm.

Everybody is welcome to hear David Alexander speak on *'Anna and the King of Siam – the real story'*.

Holistic fair

THE Little Shop of Calm in Cowbridge opens its doors this Saturday (September 20) for a free entry holistic fair between 12pm and 5pm.

Drop in to find out more about the many classes and life-enhancing therapies on offer, or try an affordable taster session with a therapist. All welcome.

On the lookout for bears in the Old Hall Gardens!

'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' at Cowbridge Library.

COWBRIDGE Library held a 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' event earlier this summer to raise awareness about the 'Read for RNIB' campaign, which raise funds towards the RNIB's talking book library.

More than 20 babies and toddlers joined Julia Bazley from Cowbridge Library for an action-packed reading of We're Going on a Bear Hunt, written by Helen Oxenbury, with illustrations by Michael Rosen. Published 25 years ago, it continues to be one of the most popular books written for young children.

The event raised £20 for the RNIB campaign and the intrepid bear hunters went round Old Hall Gardens looking for bears!

Cowbridge Librarian, Melanie Weeks, would like to thank all those who took part, particularly Julia at the library and Angharad and Emily, work experience students.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Gardening Club

THE next meeting of the Cowbridge Gardening Club will be on Thursday, September 25, at 7.30pm in the Lesser Hall, at the Town Hall.

Sue Duffield will present *'A Virtual Tour of the Cowbridge Physic Garden'*. New members are welcome.

Art Society

ON September 25, Cowbridge Art Society starts its new season with a social evening, with a special emphasis on welcoming new members.

The society has a full programme of demonstrations, illustrated lectures and practical sessions each Thursday throughout the school year, at the Old Hall, Cowbridge (7pm–9pm).

For details of the society's programme and activities see www.cowbridgeartsociety.com.

Children recreate wartime schooldays with gas masks and cuddly teddy bears

TO mark the start of a new school World War Two project, pupils of St David's Church in Wales Primary School, Colwinston, came dressed as evacuees for the day.

Their suitcases, gas masks and teddy bears were packed for the long journey ahead of them! The children had a fun-filled day to help them to experience the life of children at this time.

They engaged in role play activities and played wartime games as air raid sirens sounded.

The children are now looking forward to other planned events related to this topic. They have a celebratory street party, will be interviewing evacuees about their experiences, and have a trip to Swansea War Museum.

Marathon effort!

Cowbridge sisters Niamh, Rachael, Sophie, are preparing for the Cardiff Half Marathon in October

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Sophie, Rachael and Niamh were devastated when Rhianna died and are still coming to terms with it.

They're taking part in the Cardiff Half Marathon on October 5 to boost funds for Helen House. They will be joined by their cousins from Pontadawe Jenny, Kate and Isla.

Sophie said: "In a situation like this you feel so helpless, and you want to do anything good that brings the family together. It is a positive thing to do to support our family."

Rachael said: "We understand that money raised will go to renovations at Helen house."

Rachael recently did some running in Finland and admitted that the distance of 13.1 miles was daunting.

ABOVE: Rhianna.

"The furthest I've run is about six miles, but there are still a couple of weeks of training left to prepare."

Sophie added: "I'm looking forward to the half marathon and have learned a lot about keeping fit. Niamh once ran a race – I think it was 1,000 metres – and said she'd never run again!"

But the sisters and their cousins will all be running for a great cause on Sunday, October 5.

Helen and Douglas House is a registered charity providing respite and end of life care for children and young adults with life-shortening conditions, as well as support and friendship for the whole family. The two hospice houses are bright, positive places, where the emphasis is on living life to the full, even when that life may be short.

The Just Giving page for donations is: *www.justgiving.com/Kate-Rickson1/*.

Memories of the 1970s?

WERE you in or around Cowbridge in the 1970s? What memories can you conjure up and share of that era... local government re-organisation, the end of the borough council, grammar school/high school to comprehensive, the visit of Prince Philip, Old Hall rescued and rebuilt?

What shops and businesses were developing now that the town had its bypass to ease the traffic queues?

What clubs and organisations did you attend?

The Cowbridge and District Local History Society was formed (in the new library) at this time, and on October 1, the Local History Room in Old Hall is planning an exhibition of Cowbridge in the 1970s, as part of an event to celebrate the building's current refurbishment.

Please contact Betty Alden on 10446 773373 or at: bettyalden1@gmail.com if you can contribute or help in any way.

Astonishing turnaround at The Highwayman... after GEM highlights lost business during summit

by TIM CHAPMAN

THE Highwayman Inn, based on the outskirts of Rhoose near Cardiff Airport, enjoyed a remarkable change in its fortunes during the Nato summit following a story run in The GEM.

Early that week one of the popular pub's partners, Derek Gaynor had told The GEM that 'Joe Public' was staying at home because people were concerned the roads might be busy. By Tuesday, The Highwayman had lost around £1,700 in business.

Mr Gaynor claimed at the time: "The message that has been sent out to the public is '*don't go to the area because the Nato Summit is on and there is extra security*'. It has been totally overplayed."

Mr Gaynor and the staff at The Highwayman had seen lots of policemen, but not many customers.

On Thursday, September 4, The GEM ran a story 'Nato holding Highwayman to ransom – claims a local businessman' explaining the dramatic loss of business.

Cue an astonishing turnaround.

Mr Gaynor said: "The article really helped us. People came out and supported us. We had a bumper Friday, Saturday and Sunday. It was a mega weekend."

Despite the disruption caused by the police operation locally, Mr Gaynor allowed the police to use his facilities and provided them with tea and coffee.

"I got a thank you card from the Metropolitan Police and a letter of thanks from an inspector."

Mr Gaynor was also contacted by local MP Alun Cairns who was concerned that The Highwayman had lost business, and said it was an "unforseen consequence" of the summit.

Mr Gaynor estimates a figure of around £2,000 in lost business – but it could have been a lot worse had it not been for The GEM's article.

Mr Cairns said he welcomed the news that the community came to the support of The Highwayman.

"It is fantastic news that the community came out to support the local pub the weekend after the Nato summit. At events of this size there will always some pockets of disruption, but I am delighted that Mr Gaynor had a better weekend following the event."

'We need technical advice on fracking' SAYS REGIONAL AM

THE Leader of the Welsh Conservatives, Andrew RT Davies, attended Frack-Free Llantrisant's event, 'A Question of Fracking' at the local leisure centre.

The 'question time' style event featured representatives from all political parties in Wales.

Mr Davies, the regional AM for South Wales Central, said: "There is widespread community upset at the thought of test drilling coming to Llantrisant.

"It is a well-organised campaign and they deserve high praise for their work and dedication in ensuring that the local community's fears are heard and, ultimately addressed.

"It is a fact that the first licence approved for test drilling in Wales was granted by a Labour government in Westminster and it is incumbent on this Welsh Government to issue robust and clear guidance to local authorities on these matters."

Mr Davies also called on the Welsh Government to commission a piece of work by Natural Resources Wales to assess the impact of fracking on the environment: "The Welsh Government must commission work by Natural Resources Wales to ensure that communities and decision makers are all furnished with the most up to date technical advice.

"This would also empower local authorities who, when approving test drilling applications, have the opportunity to impose planning conditions."

Jail for local man who punched sister

A MAN with a "staggering" record of convictions for violence attacked his sister, Cardiff Crown Court has heard, *writes AJ SICLUNA*.

Ricky Smith (26) of Dunlin Court, Barry, was jailed for a year.

He admitted causing his sister, Adrina Rogers, actual bodily harm and causing damage.

His solicitor, Adam Sharp, said that his sister tried to stop him making a fool of himself. "He recognises his behaviour was deplorable".

Mr Sharp continued: "He has burned his bridges with his family. Fortunately, the attack was not sustained. In the past, he has suffered mental health problems and abused alcohol and drugs."

Prosecutor Jason Howells said that on July 29, he damaged the letterbox of a neighbour. The neighbour had no idea why Smith did this.

His sister heard Smith shouting, and as she approached him, he punched her to the right side of her face, with the result that she "saw stars."

Soon after, he punched her a second time, this time to the jaw.

Smith later told the police he caused the damage because of a noisy neighbour and had had enough.

Regarding the assault, he said he did not remember it.

He had previous convictions for 28 offences, including assault and wounding.

Judge David Wyn Morgan said the court was sympathetic to his underlying predicament.

"Learn your lesson and try to avoid alcohol," he said.

The judge added that he had a "staggering record for violence."

Father Rowles does like to be beside seaside!

"IT is wonderful to be so close to the sea," said a delighted Rev Father Mark Rowles, newly-appointed Parish Priest of the Catholic parish of Our Lady & St Illtyd (Llantwit Major) with St Cadoc (Cowbridge).

Parishioners have warmly welcomed both Fr Mark and also his widowed father who is living with him.

Fr Mark was born and brought up in Ebbw Vale and after studying amenity horticulture and landscaping at Pershore, he began his training for the priesthood. Part of his training was at St Kieran's College in Kilkenny, Ireland where he stayed for five years, leaving in 1994 to be ordained a Deacon in Maesteg in June 1994.

He was ordained a Priest in Ebbw Vale in June 1995 and went on to serve in Ely, Merthyr, Bridgend, Rhondda, Upper Cynon Valley, Aberdare and Hirwaun.

With all the responsibilities he will be taking on as a roving priest of the Deanery, together with his work as Archdiocesan Master of Ceremonies, we hope that he will have time to relax and enjoy the sea on his doorstep in Llantwit Major.

RS

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Russell Heath Accountants is 20 years old!

In September 1994, Russell Heath started his accountancy practice from the spare room of the family home in St Mary Church, Cowbridge.

Starting out with a computer purchased in 1988, a fax machine and a Yellow Pages, Russell commenced on a cold calling programme to build up his bank of clients.

This proved successful, and in 1996 he invested in a new computer with windows software!

As the Nineties drew to an end Russell launched his web site and started communicating by e-mail.

In 2000 he recruited his first member of staff, and as the number of clients grew, he opened his Cardiff Bay Office in 2001.

A rapid expansion followed over the next few years, with the Cowbridge Office opening in 2003 and the recruitment of 4 staff. In 2007, Russell purchased an accountancy practice from a retiring owner.

Today, Russell Heath Accountants operates from both Cowbridge and Cardiff Bay Offices servicing over 300 clients.

Russell and his staff are committed to providing a quality service for their clients which is recognised by the number of referrals they receive.

The main difference between 1994 and 2014 is the method of communication with the clients and the Crown Authorities. All statutory tax forms are filed online and clients are increasingly using software programmes to record their transactions.

"We pride ourselves that we know every client personally and we endeavour to make them feel welcome and to talk in a language they understand." Russell's clients are predominately small to medium sized businesses, sole traders and individual tax returns.

"I am very proud of what the practice has achieved since its inception in 1994, and I am looking forward to the future. Our success has been built upon listening to our clients' requirements and acting promptly on their various issues."

Russell Heath Accountants has a stand at a business exhibition at the Cardiff City House of Sport on September 25th along with other business owners to participate in the largest business exhibition in Wales!

"I would like to thank all our clients for their support and the staff for their hard work which has enabled the practice to progress and grow from its humble beginnings to today's position in Cowbridge and Cardiff Bay - and so to the next 20 years!"

"We pride ourselves on knowing every client personally and endeavour to make them feel welcome and to talk in a language they understand."

"Our success has been built upon listening to our clients' requirements and acting promptly on their various issues."

Village interactive exhibition recalls World War

Visitors including the Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian, viewing the displays.

Casi and Megan examine World War One medals at the exhibition in Aberthin village hall.

Afternoon tea in the Village Hall.

Cayo wearing the sailor's hat.

OVER 200 people, aged 9 – 99, discovered how the local landscape changed forever in a fascinating exhibition held to commemorate World War One.

The event in Aberthin Village Hall, reckoned by one visitor to be "as good as a museum", highlighted the changes to village life, as well as the challenges faced by farmers across the country to feed the population.

The exhibition was put together by Frank Hartles and Keith Edwards, who were pleased that after months of hard work, the event had been so well received:

"We had no idea if people would be interested, but several returned three times in order to take it all in. It was very much a 'hands-on' exhibition, with youngsters trying on a sailor's hat whose original owner, the grandfather of a village resident, was torpedoed twice in one day! Boys in particular were interested in the bayonet on display and visitors could handle medals and 100-year-old postcards.

"Probably most poignant of all was the diary of a soldier whose last entry was made on the day he died. That really hit home," Frank said.

Many were surprised to learn how rationing was enforced in 1917 as food supplies dwindled, with at one point only enough wheat to last six weeks. There was much interest in the vital role played by women and the dependence on horse power before the introduction of 'tractor machines'.

Other displays included a handwritten book with instructions for building, manning and defending trenches, and how to deal with a range of German hand grenades.

A memorial tea was held on the Sunday alongside the exhibition when a full house of villagers sat down together to commemorate the beginning of World War One.

The exhibition was free to visit but donations were welcomed, and along with the tea time raffle, a total of £175 was raised for the British Legion.

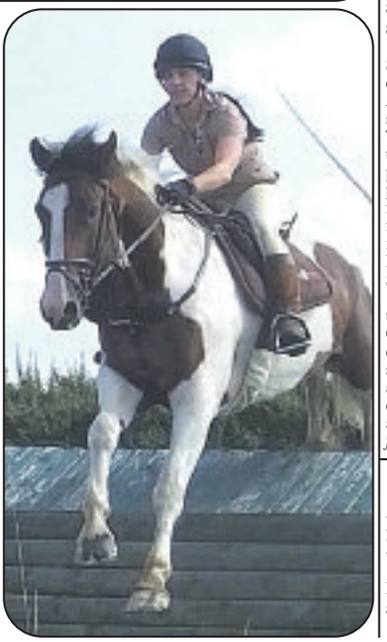
GLAMORGAN HUNT FUN RIDE

Pictures by Heather March.

THE Glamorgan Hunt held a Fun Ride at Llandow recently, when 210 horses and ponies enjoyed a course through farmland and open countryside with a variety of optional jumps and various levels of difficulty.

It gave a chance for riders of all abilities to gain confidence and also to experience young horses.

Hunter Trials will be held at Alps Park, Wenvoe on October 5, when there will be a more structured course with classes at all levels (*see website for details*).



Follow us on Twitter - @gem_news

Big Screen back in Cowbridge

COWBRIDGE'S Big Screen film shows, with the town hall's new screen and projection system, are back for another season.

First, on Thursday, September 25, is the comedy *The Grand Budapest Hotel* (cert 15) starring Ralph Fiennes. The story involves the theft and recovery of a priceless Renaissance painting and the battle for an enormous family fortune. A cast of stars includes Jeff Goldblum, Harvey Keitel, Tilda Swinton and Jude Law.

On October 23 it's a thriller set in 1960s Greece. It is centred on a con artist, his wife, and a stranger who flee Athens after one of them is caught up in the death of a private detective. *Two faces of January* (cert 12A) features Viggo Mortensen and Kirsten Dunst.

One of the surprising successes of 2014 is *Chef* (cert 15) the film for November 27. Jon Favreau, a chef who loses his restaurant job, starts up a food truck in an effort to reclaim his creative skills, while piecing back together his estranged family.

It also features Robert Downey Jr and Scarlett Johansson.

The Christmas family film, on December 11, is the ever-popular *Elf* (cert PG).

Further details will appear in The GEM or on *Twitter@BigScreenVale*. Tickets (£4) in advance from the town clerk's office in the town hall or on the door. All performances start at 7.30pm. Doors open at 7pm.

Bridge results

RESULTS from the Vale of Glamorgan Bridge Club for September 7:

1st Debbie and Simon Richards 62.3 per cent, 2nd Mike Best and David Birt 59.38, 3rd Susan Spencer and Su Summerhayes 59.03.

LE

Stagecoach students' 'outstanding' results

CHILDREN and teachers at Stagecoach Theatre Arts are celebrating exceptional results in LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art) exams.

The students, aged six to 16, took an exam in 'Acting' or 'Speaking of Verse and Prose' with the youngest entering at 'preliminary level', while the oldest took 'Grade 6, Bronze medal'.

"The school is delighted to announce record results, as every single entrant was awarded the highest mark of a distinction! The children were assessed on performance, technique and knowledge, and received a certificate and written review from the external examiner," said Stagecoach principal Helene Reynolds.

"We offer LAMDA awards, in addition to our weekly drama, dance and singing classes. Students can choose to take a LAMDA award to gain a globally recognised qualification, with the higher grades gaining UCAS points for university entry."

The GEM has joined forces with the Dogs Trust to find suitable homes for inmates at the Bridgend rehoming centre.

Mandy needs you to be patient!

MANDY is an eight-year-old labrador cross, affectionate and incredibly loyal to those she loves.

Mandy is worried by other dogs and does show aggression to cope with that, but we are helping her learn the skills she needs to make friends.

Mandy will need an experienced home, with owners willing to put some work into her socialisation. It would be preferable if there were no dogs either side of the garden to prevent any complications.

Despite her issues, Mandy is a gentle and playful girl, she just needs calm, patient owners. She is house trained, fine to be left for a few hours and can live with children over 14 years old.

If you can offer Mandy the home she deserves, please call us on 01656 725219 or pop into Dogs Trust Bridgend, Pen-y-fai. We are open 12pm – 4pm every day except Monday, with late night opening on Wednesdays until 7.30pm.

We have lots of of lovely dogs here, so if Mandy's not the girl for you, please do visit to see who else is looking for a home!

Linda Feagan
(Supporter Relations Officer, Dogs Trust Bridgend)

LIONS PLAN BANK HOLIDAY MAY FAIR

THE Llantwit Major and Cowbridge Lions Club announced this week it will be holding a Cowbridge May Fair on the Bear Field, The Broadshoard, Cowbridge on Bank Holiday Monday, May 4, 2015.

Spokesman John Andrew said: "Last year's Cowbridge May Fair was a great success, as was the Llantwit Major Fayre Day in June of this year. One of the main reasons for these successes was the active involvement and support of local people, community groups, schools and businesses.

"With your support the 2015 Cowbridge May Fair can be another wonderful community day."

Anyone who would like to be involved, such as taking a stall, performing music or drama, or simply to contribute ideas, should contact 0845 833 6763, or e-mail (info@lmandclions.org.uk), via the Lions website (www.lmandclions.org.uk) or via Facebook (www.facebook.com/lmandclions).

***ABOVE:* Fun and games at last year's fair in Llantwit Major!**

Group plans to oppose excess rural housing

A GROUP opposed to adding extra housing onto small villages will meet this Sunday (September 21) to discuss its plan of campaign.

'Vale Villages Together' argues that around 1.600 homes in total could be built in the rural Vale – all close to existing villages.

Spokesman Andrew Loyns said: "The rural Vale faces the prospect of massive housing development as a result of the policies of the Vale Council, which includes the removal of settlement boundaries.

"Out of the 10,950 new houses demanded by the Welsh Government, the council proposes to build 940 houses on sites in a number of Vale villages in its Local Development Plan (LDP).

"In addition, the council is proposing further development of another 722 new houses across the rural Vale, the so-called 'windfall' allocation.

"The goal of Vale Villages Together is not to prevent housing development in the rural Vale. Clearly, additional housing is needed, especially affordable housing.

"What we are opposed to is the disproportionate scale of housing proposed by the Council.

"An open meeting has been arranged and we invite representatives from community councils, residents' groups and relevant organisations to a forum on the future of housing in the rural Vale".

The forum will be in Ystradowen Community Hall, at 2.30pm on Sunday, September 21.

Y course will tackle the big questions of life...

by Canon DEREK BELCHER, Rector of Cowbridge

ARE you wondering about the big questions in life? What has reason to do with belief? Can my reason be an essential part of my life in understanding God?

Each of us as thinking human beings have real questions to ask and explore.

Before entering the Anglican ministry, I worked as a registered dietitian in the NHS. As a nutritionist, I was an applied scientist, which invigorated my Christian faith. It did not diminish it. The Y course is a chance to explore life's big issues – the ones that usually start with the word, Why….?

The course starts by asking if there is a God and the discussion moves from there.

There is no initial level of faith required by the participants – just an interest in the fact that there may be more to this life than the routine we experience every day – however pleasurable or painful that may be.

The course starts on Thursday evening at 7pm on October 2and runs for eight weekly sessions. Each session in Holy Cross Church is led by John Williams and Howard Perks.

We need to have an indication of the numbers likely to attend, since we would like each person to have access to a course book.

We would, therefore, be grateful if you would email Howard Perks on jhperks55@gmail.com or leave a message at the Parish Office 01446772302 or contact office@cowbridgeparish.com, simply to indicate your intention to join the course.

We welcome all thinking individuals to come along and participate in the course. There is no cost, as this is part of the work of the Benefice of Cowbridge in offering a chance for anyone to engage in an open discussion on the important issues of life.

A Harvest family guest service will be held on Sunday, October 5 at 11am in Holy Cross Church, Cowbridge.

All gifts brought to the service will be handed to the homeless and the Foodbank

Bridgend man (50) possessed indecent images

Report by AJ SICLUNA

A 50-YEAR-OLD man described as "terribly inadequate" has been given a three-year community order at Cardiff Crown Court for possessing indecent images of boys.

At one stage during the hearing, Steven King collapsed and was treated in the courtroom by paramedics. He was advised to go to hospital, but he refused.

King of Cae Garn, Bridgend, had admitted three charges of possessing indecent images.

In addition, he was also ordered to register as a sex offender for five years and to attend a sex offenders' programme.

Recorder Peter Griffiths said: "The children on the images were the abused victims. They are the people exploited."

Testimonials, said the Recorder, indicated that King, who had no previous convictions, was a decent, caring man.

He said he had no friends and no support, and had been described as "terribly inadequate".

Prosecutor Matthew Cobb said all the boys were under 18, but some were as young as three.

Police discovered DVDs and images on computers. There were 179 images at Category A, the most serious, 120 at Category D and 500 at Category C.

There were also "German naturist" pictures, as well as Asian boy models.

"The images spoke for themselves," said Mr Cobb. When King was arrested, he said: "No comment" to the police.

His counsel, Huw Evans, said: "This is a serious matter by a man who has devoted his life to his mother. What he requires is counselling and help, something he is crying out for."

Mr Evans said he had had an abusive upbringing and saw serious violence meted out to his mother, who is housebound.

"For many years, he has struggled with his sexuality and his only friends were his computers. Sadly, he thought about things in a distorted way."

He said it all started when King used the internet to access adult pornography.

None of the images were distributed.

Mr Evans said his greatest punishment had been telling his mother about the case.

"He is an incredibly vulnerable man."

The Recorder also imposed a Sexual Offences Prevention Order and directed that the computers be confiscated.

PACT meetings

COURT PACT at the Witchill Community Centre, Dyfan Road, Barry, today September 18 at 6pm.

SULLY PACT at the Cricket Pavilion today September 18 at 7pm.

DYFAN PACT, Highlight Park Community Centre, September 29 at 7.45pm.

RHOOSE coffee and chat at the Fox and Hounds, Llancarfan, September 30 at 11am.

PATEL FAMILY GUESTS OF VALE FOR AFRICA

HOSTED by Sian Tesni last week, a Vale for Africa fundraising cream tea attracted visitors, as well as local supporters, including Vimla Patel MBE and her family from Cardiff.

Born and brought up in Uganda before the Amin expulsion of Asians, Vimla and her family have been supporting the Vale for Africa group which supports communities in the Tororo district of Uganda.

In the picture are Sian Tesni, Ted Arbuthnot - Chair of Vale for Africa, Jane Hutt, AM for the Vale, and Mrs Vimla Patel and family.

Record response

THERE were celebrations all round at the latest committee meeting for the homecraft section of the Vale Show.

Every year the committee holds a raffle, with tickets sold on the day.

It is customary for the chairperson of the year to choose her charity and this year, Jan Rees chose Macmillan Nurses charity: "A record sum of £640 was raised. Thanks, of course, go to all who supported this venture," she said.

RAFA CONCERT

BARRY RAFA Charity 'Wings' concert at St Mary's Church, Holton Road, Barry on September 26 at 7.30pm will feature Jodi Bird and Llinos Jones; doors open from 7pm.

Tickets can be obtained from Howard by texting on 07884 331 853, or preferably by emailing details to *howcome@ntlworld.com* and are priced £5 for adults, and £3 for children under 14.

There will be a limited number available at the door on the night. For further information about the work of the RAFA and 'Wings Appeal', go to *rafa.org.uk*.

Immigrant clung on to Vale family's motorhome

VALE MP Alun Cairns has taken up the issue of Barry residents who discovered that an immigrant had held on to the axle of their motorhome while they were returning from holiday.

Mr Cairns has written to the Home Secretary Theresa May to express concern about security in Calais and the risks the situation posed.

Mr Cairns is asking the Home Office what specific measures can be introduced in Calais to avoid a repeat of the situation where a stowaway was able to clamber aboard a motorhome.

The immigrant attached himself to the axle for over 100 miles, after arriving in the United Kingdom through the Channel tunnel.

Mr Cairns said: "Having spoken with Mr Mullin and Mrs Bell, I have made specific enquiries with the Home Office to ensure this situation cannot happen so easily in broad daylight in Calais. Both families were very concerned at the situation. They were put in a situation that no-one should face.

"The situation that the immigrant placed himself in was also alarming.

"It is clear that more needs to be done in Calais to ensure that holiday makers returning home don't have to suffer with the torment of an uninvited passenger.

"It appears that as they were waiting for the pet passport procedures to be completed, the immigrant must have climbed under the vehicle on to the axle. This could be a blind spot for spot checks, so I will be seeking clarification as to what can be done to close any weak points when crossing the Channel.

"Security needs to be improved and I hope the Home Secretary will raise the issue with the French Authorities."

Mr Cairns added: "After the challenge to the ferry recently by desperate immigrants trying to get to the UK, it is clear that action needs to be taken."

For further information on how to obtain a place at the school for members of your family please ring 02920 232 850 or email fitzalanhigh@cardiff.gov.uk. Alternatively, contact Admissions at County Hall.

Come along to our Open Evening

Thursday 25th September 2014

from 3.45 pm to 6.30 pm

- pupil participation
- tour the school
- visit subject zones
- refreshments
- meet staff and pupils

Discover why Fitzalan pupils achieved such high results and find out how you can be a part of it.

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VALE MP's VIEWPOINT

'Closure of another Post Office is unacceptable'

Vale MP **Alun Cairns** reports to GEM readers

SIMPLY unacceptable – the closure of another local Post Office, in Highlight Park, Barry – is to follow the one in Cowbridge, where a 'temporary closure' has been announced.

This cannot stand and that is my message to Lloyds Pharmacy in Barry, after they announced their intention to close the popular Post Office at Highlight Park.

It cannot be right that a landlord can close a local Post Office at short notice – against the wishes of the Post Office nationally, leaving little time for an alternative to be found. This is what happened in Cowbridge and could happen at Highlight Park Barry.

The Cowbridge Post Office has been closed for nearly six months already – but I expect better news on this over the coming weeks. I am in weekly contact to chase and maintain pressure.

This Post Office, like all others, is a vital cog in Barry and the whole Vale community. I will be meeting with Lloyds Pharmacy next week and am determined to emphasise the importance of the Highlight Park Post Office on behalf of concerned local residents.

I don't understand how a decision can be made giving such short notice, leaving residents in Highlight Park with the potential loss of such an important facility.

With Christmas fast approaching, our postal services in the Vale – in particular Barry and Cowbridge – must be ready to serve customers.

I am encouraging the operators in Highlight Park to look at a temporary solution that involves local residents. The community centre could house a temporary solution, whilst a permanent Post Office can be found locally.

The Government has rightly guaranteed the future of Post Office provision, but it cannot be right that landlords can pull the rug without granting sufficient time for an alternative premises to be located.

I don't want pensioners and some of the most vulnerable in our society to have a very important service disrupted in their community at such short notice. This is a short sighted decision and simply unacceptable.

Lloyds Pharmacy should at least extend their notice period to allow another local operator to go through the Post Office selection process. We need to ensure continuity of service in Highlight Park, that sadly wasn't secured in Cowbridge.

I have a clear plan for action. Lloyds Pharmacy needs to extend their notice period; a temporary facility needs to be developed in the short term; allowing a permanent site to be found.

Lloyds Pharmacy need to rethink their decision in Barry, they need to plan ahead with a clear message for local residents and work with other local businesses.

A local Post Office is an essential part of a vibrant community. I will continue to put pressure on all stakeholders to deliver for residents in Barry and the Vale.

Wales' First Minister reshuffles the cabinet

VALE AM Jane Hutt retained her post, and has been asked to take on extra responsibilities, in the Welsh Government, after First Minister Carwyn Jones's surprise mini-reshuffle last week.

The headline maker was former education Minister, Leighton Andrews, who returned to the cabinet and will head a new public services department, looking at local government reorganisation.

Ms Hutt is now the Minister for Finance and Government Business, and said: "I am delighted to have been re-appointed as Finance Minister with the additional responsibility of overseeing Government Business.

"Over the summer, I have had the opportunity to explain to those who deliver and use our public services what our spending priorities are and hear what services they want to see delivered, to meet their needs in the most challenging of times for our public finances – with the Welsh Budget lower by 10 per cent in real terms than it was four years ago.

"With the forthcoming Budget, the next few months will be an important step in addressing these challenges and realising our ambitions for a fairer, healthier and more prosperous Wales."

The new cabinet : *First Minister* – Carwyn Jones; *Economy, Science and Transport* – Edwina Hart; *Health and Social Services* – Mark Drakeford; *Education and Skills* – Huw Lewis; *Finance and Government Business* – Jane Hutt; *Public Services* – Leighton Andrews; *Communities and Tackling Poverty* – Lesley Griffiths; *Natural Resources* – Carl Sargeant. Deputy Ministers: *Health* – Vaughan Gething; *Culture Sport and Tourism* – Ken Skates; *Farming and Food* – Rebecca Evans; *Skills and Technology* – Julie James; *Chief Whip* – Janice Gregory.

THE VALE IS A TOP PLACE TO RETIRE

THE Vale has been placed joint third with Buckinghamshire and north Somerset for top places to retire in Wales and England, in a retirement index compiled by Prudential.

It states that pensioners in Dorset enjoy the highest quality of life, followed by Solihull.

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*Conditions apply, maximum £500 of vouchers (20% of £2500). Offer applies to monies paid on the day, not order value. Excludes selected partners & concessions, see in store for details. Voucher offer valid from 11th - 21st September 2014 only.

£25 GEM FACEBOOK PRIZE

Our GEM Facebook winner for September 11, 2014 is:

DONNA PERRY

who correctly answered last week's question in The GEM.

Our lucky winning reader, chosen at random wins a £25 prize voucher to spend with any advertiser in last week's GEM.

The competition runs every week throughout 2014 with a potential prize fund of £1,150.

Congratulations to Donna!

REMEMBER TO LIKE US AND SHARE ON FACEBOOK:
facebook.com/glamorgangem

Resort's record results boost Welsh economy

HENSOL'S Vale Resort is celebrating its "most successful July ever", having enjoyed record occupancy and revenue – thanks to the summer's good weather.

This, along with the continuing legacy of Wales' involvement in the 2010 Ryder Cup, which put the country firmly on the map as a global golfing destination, attracted 2,500 golfers to the world-class resort. They occupied nearly 1,000 golf bedrooms and contributed to the four-star venue's highest ever July income of some £105,555.

Spa breaks also boosted the Vale Resort's fortunes with 230 bookings, the highest number achieved in a single month.

Particularly encouraging for the Welsh economy was the news that the Vale Resort had won some 30 new business contracts this year for meetings and conferences, a return to pre-recession levels.

Vale man to head Mensa in Wales

GILES METCALF.

A DINAS POWYS man has been elected as the new regional officer for Mensa in Wales for the next two years.

Giles Metcalf was elected unopposed after the previous officer, Julian Tandy, from west Wales, stood down. His election was ratified at a meeting of Mensa members. Mr Metcalf has been a Mensa member for more than 20 years and has served on its board of directors.

Married with three children, he met his wife, Merry, at a weekend gathering in Manchester and proposed to her at a Mensa meeting in Newport!

Mr Metcalf grew up in Kent and worked as a research microbiologist for 10 years before switching to a career in IT. He now designs financial software for a company in Cardiff. His hobbies include making silver jewellery and gardening.

He said: "I am particularly pleased to be taking over during an important year for Mensa in Wales with the annual gathering being held in Cardiff this month – the first time for it to have been held in Wales for many years.

"One of my aims is to encourage more people to join Mensa, the organisation for people with high IQs (intelligence quotient).

"It has been estimated that two per cent of the population could qualify for membership, so there's plenty of scope for more Vale residents to join us.

"Another aim as regional officer is to increase the number of get-togethers for members in different parts of Wales.

"We have started holding meetings in Penarth and Cowbridge, for example, and anyone interested in the group is welcome to come along.

"Anyone wanting more information about our meetings, or Mensa in general, can contact me on 029 21400098."

JESS WILL REWARD YOU WITH LOVE!

JESS is a three-year-old Husky x Malamute. She is a bright and active young dog, lovely with people.

She is very playful, and loves her toys. Jess is worried around other dogs and animals, so we are looking for a special home for her, with quiet routes to walk where she wouldn't have to face these stresses.

She needs an active, experienced owner who has trained dogs before, and will be able to give her the exercise she needs.

Jess is housetrained and is good travelling in the car. She can live with older children. Jess will be a challenge for someone, but we will be on hand with advice on training and the love you will get in return is more than worth the work!

If you can offer Jess the home she deserves, please call us on 01656 725219, or pop into Dogs Trust Bridgend. We are open 12 – 4pm every day except Monday, and open late until 7.30pm on Wednesdays.

LINDA FEAGAN
(Supporter Relations Officer
Dogs Trust Bridgend).

Ysgol Brynteg School

Headteacher David Jenkins and his staff invite you to

Brynteg School Year 5&6 Open Evening

Thursday 25th September 2014

Introductory Headteacher talks and tours at **4.30 pm or 5.30pm** for **Y6** pupils and parents/carers in **Lower** School Hall. Talks and tours for **Y5** pupils and parents/carers at **5.00 pm** in **Upper** School Hall

Excellent Pastoral Care and Support

- Dedicated and experienced Transition Team to support pupils during their move to Brynteg.
- The only local school to have a specialised Cluster Learning Support Officer working with pupils during transition.
- Pastoral Support judged as outstanding in most recent ESTYN inspection.
- Whole-school mentoring programme, providing your children with guidance and encouragement to maximise their potential in an inclusive environment.

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- A strong tradition of high academic excellence in external examinations
- 92% of students achieved 2 A levels or more.
- Over 85% of 6th form students achieved first choice university.
- 85% of GCSE pupils achieved 5 or more A* - Cs
- 64% of GCSE pupils achieved 5 or more A* - Cs including English and Maths

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- A huge range of extra-curricular activities
- Extensive charity work, world-wide educational visits and international links with schools in France, Ireland and South America.

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CF31 3ER
Tel: 01656 641800
admin@bryntegsch.bridgend.sch.uk
www.bryntegschool.co.uk

CHARITY FASHION SHOW

THE Second Hand Rose Fashion Show, in support of Touched by Cancer, will take place at Cornelly Community Centre on Friday, September 26 from 7.30pm to 9pm.

Admission £3.50. Call Lyn Smith for details on 07772 106619.

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Penarth, CF64 3EE
www.scottwroe-hearingcentre.co.uk

Funding available for Britain's farming and rural communities

ARE you helping to provide valuable services to rural communities? Do you give business support to help rural enterprises start up or grow? Are you training the farmers of the future?

Organisations and charities that are helping to protect and sustain Britain's farming and rural communities can apply for much-needed funding of up to £50,000 from The Prince's Countryside Fund, which opened online for grant applications on September 8.

The Prince's Countryside Fund, which strives to secure a sustainable future for the British countryside, is looking to invest up to £600,000 in worthwhile rural initiatives in this application round.

Since its inception in 2010, the charity has given £4.4 million in grants distributed to 105 projects across the country, directly benefitting 80,000 people.

The Fund has recently reviewed its funding criteria in order to provide improved clarity to the organisations applying of the variety of innovative projects in the countryside it will support.

Projects will be considered on their contribution to one of three key countryside issues:

1. Thriving Rural Communities: projects that provide innovative solutions to deliver assets and services that keep rural communities together and develop a more sustainable rural economy i.e. empowering communities to provide village services or create business hubs and employment for local people.

2. Rural Livelihoods: projects that focus on developing stronger, more sustainable farm and rural enterprises with the aim of halting the decline of the rural economy i.e. providing rural businesses with support and advice or supporting farmer led initiatives.

3. Farmers of the Future: projects that help improve skills and increase opportunities of taking up rural careers, in particular in farming, with the aim of helping people to remain within and contribute to the rural economy i.e. training opportunities and apprenticeship schemes that inspire and enable new entrants to consider a career in farming.

Helen Aldis, Manager of The Prince's Countryside Fund, said: "We are looking for projects that will have a long term positive effect on rural communities and enterprise, helping the people who care for our countryside and make it tick.

"It is one of our most valuable national assets and this funding will give much needed support to the remarkable people working to sustain a vibrant rural economy."

"We have also redefined the criteria to help provide improved clarity to the organisations applying to the Fund of th

"We also hope this will further inspire creative initiatives, that tackle the Fund's objectives to help make a real difference to the rural economy and the people who care for our countryside, to apply."

Since 2010, The Prince's Countryside Fund has given grants to support 140 rural communities by improving service provision, 3,400 farm businesses through funding projects that work directly with farmers to improve efficiency and profitability and 880 rural enterprises through supporting innovative rural business projects: 4,380 young people have benefitted from projects offering training opportunities and 18,000 children educated in food and farming in a sustainable countryside.

To apply for funding from The Prince's Countryside Fund please complete the online application form at: www.princescountrysidefund.org.uk.

The Prince's Countryside Fund is open for applications on until October 23 at 5pm. Any applications received after this time will not be considered.

Example projects funded to date include:

WALES: Pub is the Hub is an advisory organisation which encourages rural licensees and communities to work together in support of local needs, bringing vital services such as a Post Office or village shop back into the community by using the pub to house them.

In rural areas of Wales, the lack of services can inflict serious social costs on communities.

A project funded by the Prince's Countryside Fund aims to identify 50 pubs to be developed into service and community hubs leading to better service provision and improved community cohesion.

"It is encouraging to see the difference a Pub is the Hub scheme can make in its local community. The rural pub is essential and by supporting it with shared services, they will support you," says John Longden of Pub is the Hub.

"Whilst it may be hard work serving both pints of milk and beer, as well as postal services, in its way it increases turnover and creates part-time jobs in the area, as well as assisting local suppliers and ensuring that the community retains its heart."

South West: Dave Knight is one of the farmers involved in the Exmoor Hill Farm Project managed by North Devon+. In his role as Chair, he recognises the value of bringing farmers together:

"With the global and local challenges facing farmers, we need to be open to new ideas and to change our farming to keep it profitable.

"That is not always easy but with the Network's peer support groups, they provide an honest forum within which new ideas can be demonstrated, assessed and applied to the Exmoor context."

Touched by Cancer cheques go to charity

THE Touched by Cancer charity was set up by Coun Megan Butcher (right) in 2010, to raise funds for local organisations to support cancer sufferers and their families.

Over the last four years fundraising activities have taken place, but the main event has been the annual Hallowe'en Sponsored Walk at Kenfig National Nature Reserve.

On June 25, a special event was held at The Sandville, Ton Kenfig, when Coun Butcher distributed the £11,000 that was raised over the last year to The Sandville, Macmillan, Velindre and LATCH charities.

Since the launch in 2010, over £35,000 has been raised and shared out amongst the organisations.

This year's walk will take place on October 25 and sponsor forms are now available from The Community Hub, North Cornelly, on 01656 670812, or email tbc@caddt.org.

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WELSH IS IN HIGH DEMAND...

ALMOST 65 years after the establishment of the first Welsh medium school in Barry, the Welsh medium education sector in the Vale of Glamorgan is embarking on an exciting phase in its development. And the driving force behind the changes is parental demand.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council was quick to recognise this sustained growth in demand from parents and responded positively by establishing two new primary schools in 2011 – Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Talwg in Barry and Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant in Llantwit Major. In addition an extension was built to Ysgol Gymraeg Pen-y-Garth to make it a double intake school, able to accommodate two classes for each year group.

These investments still did not offer sufficient places to meet demand and consequently Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant, in the Gibbonsdown area of Barry, is being doubled in size to become a 420 place school, with work scheduled to being this autumn.

As a result of this substantial investment in Welsh medium education by the Vale Council, the Vale's can boast seven Welsh medium primary schools – Ysgolion St Baruc, St Curig, Gwaun y Nant and Nant Talwg in Barry, Iolo Morganwg in Cowbridge, Dewi Sant in Llantwit Major and Pen-y-Garth in Penarth.

They have a total of over 1,650 pupils on their books. A further 834 pupils are educated at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg, the Welsh medium comprehensive school in Barry, which was ranked fourth best secondary school in Wales in this year's Western Mail performance tables.*

"There is no better time to consider Welsh education for your family," according to Dr Dylan Jones, headteacher of Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg. "Welsh medium education is available to everyone and in fact the vast majority of pupils who attend Welsh medium schools come from English speaking families. My thanks go to the Vale of Glamorgan Council for recognising and responding positively to the demand for Welsh medium education locally. I think people over the last couple of decades have started to see the Welsh language as a benefit rather than a threat."

Iona Edwards, headteacher of Ysgol Gymraeg Pen-y-Garth, Penarth, added, "Being bilingual has numerous advantages. Bilingual children generally learn further languages more easily and appreciate different backgrounds and cultures. Speaking Welsh is a skill that's in demand and has an increasingly important role in the workplace, especially in the service industry.

"The Welsh Government is committed to a bilingual Wales and the education sector has a leading role to play in helping to achieve that goal."

Welsh medium education in the Vale has an excellent track record in achieving high educational and extra-curricular standards.

Next week's GEM will contain a special feature outlining the exciting developments and initiatives in Welsh medium education locally.

As Iona Edwards says, "There's a warm welcome for everyone in Welsh medium education."

**source: The Real Schools Guide supplement of the Western Mail dated August 2, 2014.*

Galw am y Gymraeg

BRON 65 mlynedd ar ôl sefydlu'r ysgol Gymraeg gyntaf yn Y Barri, mae'r sector addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg ym Mro Morgannwg ar drothwy cyfnod cyffrous yn ei hanes. A galw cyson oddi wrth rieni sydd wrth wraidd y datblygiadau.

Mi wnaeth Cyngor Bro Morgannwg ragweld y twf cyson yn y galw ac ymatebodd yn gadarnhaol drwy agor dwy ysgol gynradd newydd yn 2011- Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Talwg yn Y Barri ac Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant yn Llanilltud Fawr. Yn ogystal, adeiladwyd estyniad i Ysgol Gymraeg Pen-y-Garth i'w gwneud yn ysgol mynediad dau ddosbarth, gyda dau ffrwd ar gyfer pob blwyddyn ysgol.

Ond nid oedd hyn yn ddigonol ac o ganlyniad mae Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant yn ardal Gibbonsdown o'r Barri yn cael ei dybli mewn maint i fod yn ysgol 420 lle. Cychwynnir ar y gwaith yn yr hydref eleni.

O ganlyniad i'r buddsoddiad sylweddol yn addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg gan Gyngor Bro Morgannwg, mae saith o ysgolion Cymraeg yn bodoli - Ysgolion St Baruc, St Curig, Gwaun y Nant a Nant Talwg yn Y Barri, Iolo Morganwg yn Y Bont-faen, Dewi Sant yn Llanilltud Fawr a Phen-y-Garth ym Mhenarth.

Gyda'i gilydd maent yn addysgu dros 1650 o blant. Mae 834 o ddisgyblion ychwanegol yn derbyn addysg yn Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg yn Y Barri, gafodd ei rhestri yn y bedwaredd safle o'r ysgolion uwchradd gorau yng Nghymru yn nhablau perfformiad y Western Mail eleni.*

"Nid oes gwell amser i feddwl am addysg Gymraeg ar gyfer eich teulu chi," yn ôl Dr Dylan Jones, pennaeth Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg. "Mae addysg Gymraeg ar gael i bawb ac yn wir, mae'r rhan helaeth o blant sy'n mynychu ysgolion Cymraeg y sir yn dod o gartrefi di-Gymraeg. Hoffwn ddiolch yn fawr i Gyngor Bro Morgannwg am ymateb mor gadarnhaol i'r galw am addysg Gymraeg. Credaf fod pobl dros y degawdau diwethaf wedi dechrau gweld y Gymraeg fel mantais yn hytrach na fel bygythiad."

Ychwanegodd Iona Edwards, pennaeth Ysgol Gymraeg Pen-y-Garth, Penarth: "Mae gan ddwyieithrwydd nifer fawr o fanteision. Mae plant sy'n ddwyieithog yn ei chael yn haws ar y cyfan i ddysgu mwy o ieithoedd ac maent yn medru gwerthfawrogi gwahaniaethau mewn cefndiroedd a diwylliannau. Mae siarad Cymraeg yn sgil sydd ar i fyny ac sy'n bwysig o fewn y gweithle, yn enwedig o fewn y sector gwasanaethu.

"Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ymrwymedig i Gymru dwyieithog ac mae gan y sector addysg ran flaenllaw i chwarae i helpu gyrraedd y nod hwn."

Mae gan addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg y Fro hanes gwych o lwyddiannau mewn addysg a gweithgareddau all-gyrsiol.

Yn rhifyn yr wythnos nesaf o'r GEM bydd erthyglau arbennig yn amlinellu'r datblygiadau a'r prosiectau arloesol sy'n digwydd ym myd addysg Gymraeg yn lleol.

Fel y dywed Iona Edwards, "Mae addysg Gymraeg yn y Fro yn ffynnu ac ar i fyny. Byddwch yn ran ohono."

**ffynhonell: The Real Schools Guide, Western Mail, Awst 2, 2014.*

SIAN-ELIN JONES

(See facing page)

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A HISTORY LESSON / OLRAIN YR HANES

1951 First meeting of the committee formed to establish Welsh education in Barry in Number 9, Park Road, Barry, home of Mr and Mrs Dan Evans.

1951 September – December. Ysgol Gymraeg Gwirfoddol Y Barri founded in Salem Vestry, Barry, with the salary of the teacher, Miss Elinor Williams (later Davies), paid for by parents.

1952 The Council adopts the school and Yr Ysgol Gymraeg Gwirfoddol moves to the two roomed Wesleyan Chapel vestry in Cadoxton. 15 children attend.

1955 Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Ffransis founded in Barry, with 25 pupils. An annex called Coed yr Odyn was later added nearby for the infants, to accommodate increasing numbers.

1971 Ysgol Gymraeg Pen-y-Garth opens under the headship of Howard Goodfellow. A Welsh unit had operated out of Cogan School prior to this.

1974 Ysgol Iau Sant Baruc founded for juniors, with Elwyn Richards as headmaster.

1975 Welsh unit is established at Ysgol Gynradd Y Bont-faen which becomes Ysgol Iolo Morganwg.

1979 Ysgol Iolo Morganwg officially opens, under the headship of Glesni Whettleton.

1991 With demand outstripping the places available, Ysgol St Ffransis has outgrown its premises and is merged with Ysgol Iau Sant Baruc. The new school, called Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Baruc, operates from its current site at St Paul's Avenue, Barry. It was headed up by Dulyn Griffith until his retirement in 2010, when Rhian Andrew was appointed head.

1991 Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Curig opens on the site of (Lower) Bryn Hafren Girls Comprehensive, with Eleri Hourahane as headteacher.

1996 Ysgol Gymraeg Newydd starts in temporary buildings on land at Ysgol Sant Curig and later (2000) becomes Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant.

2000 Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg founded, with 123 pupils and 11 staff, and Dr Dylan Jones as head.

2004 Iona Edwards takes over the headship of Ysgol Gymraeg Pen-y-Garth from Peter Davies.

2001 Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant opens at its present site, with Glenna Griffith as headteacher until her retirement in 2010, when Rhydian Lloyd takes over.

2006 Headship of Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Curig passes to Siân Owen upon Eleri Hourahan's retirement.

2011 Two new Welsh medium schools are opened. Llantwit Major gets its first Welsh school as Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant opens with Helen Jennings as acting head. In Barry, Ysgol Nant Talwg is opened on the site of Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg, with Menna Roberts as head. Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg and Ysgol Nant Talwg are managed federally, with the same senior management team and governing body.

2011 Ysgol Gymraeg Pen-y-Garth is extended to become a double intake school (420 places).

2014 Rhian Williams takes over the headship of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg in Cowbridge from Dylan Evans, who becomes head of Ysgol y Dderwen, Carmarthen. Helen Jennings becomes the permanent headteacher at Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant.

2014 Plans approved to double the size of Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant due to increased demand for places. Ysgol Nant Talwg opens as a brand new purpose built primary school. Plans approved to build Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant as a brand new 210 place Welsh medium primary school as part of the Llantwit Learning Community to open in 2015.

• *With thanks to Mrs Rachel Williams MBE (headteacher of Sant Ffransis from 1968-1988) and Mrs Eleri Hourahane MBE (headteacher of Sant Ffransis 1988-1991 and Sant Curig from 1991-2006) a Mrs Carys Wheelan.*

Gyda diolch i chi am eich cymorth wrth olrain yr hanes – rhy bwysig i fynd yn anghof.

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Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

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Cloudy2Clear service the Vale, Bridgend, RCT and Porthcawl areas and Phil is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. *'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'*

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Phil a call for a free quotation on **0800 61 21 118** and he'll be happy to help!

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Out and About with The GEM

WHAT'S ON AND WHERE IN YOUR AREA!

Vale AM's surgery

THE Vale AM, Jane Hutt, will be holding a surgery on Friday (September 19) from 4pm – 5pm at Llantwit Major Heritage Centre, Town Hall.

Christmas lights

AT Athan Christmas Light Association is meeting at The Three Horseshoes, St Athan, Sunday, September 21 at 2pm.

The meeting is for anyone who would like to help or get involved.

More information from Alan Bourne, tel 07769 977207

Breastfeeding conference

TWO local mums will launch LATCH 2014 – Wales' first breasteeding conference on Monday, September 22 from 10am – 2.30pm.

Hosted by Llantrisant Breastfeeding Support Group at Bethel Baptist Church, Pontyclun, Rhondda Cynon Taf, it is the brainchild of Claire and Suki.

Contact Suki (07967 332583) or Claire (07929 053857) for full information.

COFFEE AT THE CASTLE

FOR the first time, Fonmon Castle will be opening its gates in support of Macmillan for a coffee morning on Friday, September 26, between 10.30am and 12.30pm.

The event offers the chance to explore the beautiful walled gardens and enjoy a coffee and home-made cake in the castle's elegant Georgian interior.

There will be a raffle and the cost of entry, including coffee and cake, is £3 per person.

A family spokesperson said: "We look forward to welcoming you into this family home to help raise money for this worthwhile cause".

R.S.V.P. fonmon_castle@msn.com or telephone 01446 710206.

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Ex-forces advice

HAVE you served in the Army, Navy or Air Force or a relative of someone who served in the national forces?

Age Connect Cardiff and Vale are holding an information session at The Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road Barry where you can chat to an independent adviser from SSAFA.

Advice will be available on Tuesday, September 23 (10am – 12 midday). Contact 01446 732385 for further information, or go along on the day.

Blind Week advice

IN line with National Blind Week, Age Connect Cardiff and Vale is holding an advice session at Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road Barry on September 23 from 10am to 12 noon. Contact 01446 732385.

Pamper day for Macmillan

THERE will be a Pamper Day for Macmillan Cancer Support on September 24 (10.30am – 4.30pm).

Julie at the Ogmore By Sea PO & Stores will be using Neal's Yard organic products and treatments include mini facials and hand massages. Products will be available to buy with profits to be donated to the charity.

Julie would like to thank all those who donated or bought items at her recent table sale which raised £500 for Macmillan.

"Come along and treat yourself while also helping all those living with cancer," she says.

Oldcastle PACT

OLDCASTLE PACT meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 24 at 6.30pm in Brynteg Lower School library, Heol Gam, Bridgend.

Fashion show

A fashion show by Samantha B is to be held at Holy Cross Church on September 25 at 7pm. Tickets £7, to include a glass of wine and nibbles.

Life drawing

FOLLOWING summer life drawing sessions, an autumn programme will take place in the Travellers' Gallery at Barry Town Railway Station on September 24 and October 22.

Full details contact 01446 730792, or Brian Power on 01446 407027 or 0781 609 8945.

Tax help for elderly

TaxHelp for Older People charity gives free professional help and advice to those with income tax queries or problems.

In addition to monthly surgeries held throughout the area there is also a telephone helpline. To book an appointment or to use the helpline, telephone 01308 488066.

Dylan Thomas exhibition

ART Central, Barry is hosting 'The Art of Dylan Thomas' exhibition for the centennial of the poet's birth in Swansea on October 27, 1914.

It has been curated by Tony Curtis, Emeritus Professor of Poetry at the University of South Wales.

He will give a talk on 'Dylan Thomas and the Artists' at Art Central Gallery on September 18 at 7pm. The exhibition is open Monday to Saturday from 10am to 4pm, until October 4.

Ruth's message

ALL Saints' Church in Victoria Square, Penarth, is holding two special services this month, focusing on the story of Ruth and what it teaches about faithfulness and loyalty.

Messy Church resumes after the summer break on September 21 at 4pm, with activities, celebration and a shared meal. Then on September 28 at 10am, the monthly family service will build on the same theme. All are welcome. For more information, visit allsaintspenarth.org.uk.

Cavatina recruits

CAVATINA Singers, Penarth are looking for new members! The four-part choir has a wide repertoire from madrigals to modern, contemporary music; they meet Tuesdays from 7.30pm – 9.30pm at Albert Road Primary School, Penarth.

An ability to read music is not compulsory. Contact Hon Secretary, Tom Dawkes by email at: Secretary@cavatinasingers.org.uk or phone 02920 512054. Further information at www.cavatinasingers.org.uk.

Forum celebration

RESIDENTS are invited to join the Vale 50+ Strategy Forum 10-year birthday celebration on Tuesday, September 30 at Barry Memorial Hall, Gladstone Road, Barry CF62 8NA from 10am – 3pm.

There will be a Bon Marche fashion show at 11am (modelled by 50+ Forum members), followed by a big tea party from 12.30pm – 3pm with free cake, tea and coffee. Plus lots of information stands, choir, workshops and computer taster sessions. Free entry: all welcome.

Station display

A LAND, sea, air art exhibition by Margaret Brown is being held at the Travellers Café/Gallery on Platform 1 of Barry Railway Station until November 7 on weekdays from 7am-12 noon.

The Café/Gallery is run by the charity Mind in the Vale of Glamorgan with volunteer help from Vale of Glamorgan Artists.

Dance troupe's London date

DANCE troupe, Dance Angels, who rehearse at Hebron Hall, Dinas Powys, are set to perform at the Royal Albert Hall.

The troupe, who reached the live semi-finals of Britain's Got Talent in 2011, will be providing 60 dancers for a performance in April 2015.

"The group have started to be extremely excited and overwhelmed, yet nervous to perform to a crowd of thousands. The troupe recently won the Welsh street dance title and will commence intense training for the Royal Albert Hall," a spokewoman said.

David Emanuel holding Macmillan coffee morning

ON Friday, September 26, Macmillan Cancer Support Ambassador David Emanuel is hosting his Macmillan World's Biggest Coffee Morning at Gileston Manor, Gileston, CF62 4HX.

David told The GEM: "It is going to be a really big bash! We're holding it in the gardens and are looking forward to meeting everyone. I'm even hoping it may become an annual event."

Come and explore the beautiful gardens, have coffee and cake in the wonderful surroundings, win prizes in the raffle and tombola, while raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Gates open at 10am. Admission at gate is £5, car is parking available.

Treasure Trove in Cowbridge

THIS Sunday, September 21, Treasure Trove Antiques will be returning to Cowbridge Leisure Centre, from 10am to 4pm.

The organisers are pleasantly surprised at the many enquiries that followed the last fair, held on March 30.

There will be new dealers, offering quality items. Some will buy from the public, and advice is readily available.

For the avid collectors, there are a number of items, for instance a Poole Pottery plate of the Red Arrows, created by Katren Brown, an excellent Poole designer.

A new furniture dealer will be there, and tribal art and clocks are also new to the show. There will be antiquated books, quality jewellery, works of art, Moorcroft and R Worcester ceramics and militaria, among other items from more than 35 dealers.

Home-made cakes and refreshments will also be on sale.

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All enquiries 02920 512349

www.treasuretroveantiqueandcollectorsfairs.com

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D844.

- **£2,000:** 607626.
- **The rollover, which now stands at £500 was not won this week.**
- **£10:** 216285, 860393, 883214, 745705, 731586, 992420, 929245, 799344, 167409, 652430, 479687, 559921, 393874, 343177, 328293, 260340, 422801, 668862.
- **£5:** 444895, 661346, 607105, 391938, 516902, 412318, 759383, 706407, 786882, 349964, 730911, 395079, 411100, 647910, 713457, 133466, 773514, 322853, 388263, 171128, 352418, 688690, 372615, 395832, 859927, 760037, 579523, 510970, 367543, 927398, 797480, 734943, 683959, 769277, 617995, 217598, 824768, 729456, 765568, 763283, 882616, 922999, 707269, 537493, 617034, 121066, 724124, 685612, 505688, 542291, 830531, 521075, 971029, 287513, 797993, 443522, 430763, 398, 978, 970.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

Lord of the Flies... *in dance*

SIX schoolboys from Bridgend and the Vale of Glamorgan are to star in choreographer Matthew Bourne's *Lord of the Flies* at Wales Millennium Centre next month.

Mason Roderick and Harry Grabham from Bridgend, Harly Videan from Maesteg, Lewis Scott from Porthcawl, Llewelyn Brown from Wick and Joshua Dance from Dinas Powys have been selected, along with 18 other boys from across south Wales to perform at Wales Millennium Centre (October 22-25).

They will perform alongside professional dancers from Matthew Bourne's New Adventures company the dance adaptation of William Golding's novel.

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House prices

WORK on the development of the former Llangan garden centre seems to be forging ahead.

I understand the houses will consist of four and five bedrooms and will be priced well above the average first time buyer. Will the same happen with the houses due to be built at Pentre Meyrick?

Llangan School

NOT much news this week as the school is taking a little time to settle after the long summer holidays, but last Saturday, September 13, the children were treated to a picnic which was held in the playground.

As always the teaching staff and their helpers were there to make sure everything went along smoothly.

Concert success

THE St Canna's concert by Matt Brind, the well-known musical director, which took place at St Canna's on September 10 was well attended by local residents and by those from further away.

To the rescue

A SINCERE thank you goes to a young lady (not on a white horse, but in a 4x4) who came to my assistance when my car refused to move on a narrow steep hill at St Mary Hill.

My heroine, Ingrid Llewellyn, of the St Mary Hill Riding School, managed to start my car with jump leads and followed me to my home to make sure I was allright.

It was a problem with the alternator which was replaced by the local garage as, fortunately, it was still under guarantee.

'Crafternoon' helps raise funds for The Philippines

ABOVE (left to right): Hilary Carney, Liz Price, Isobelle Davis, Clare Pullen, Helen Morgan, Monica Dennis, Fiona Ferguson, Caroline Neudegg, Salinder Gammage and Jackie Roberts were all involved in organising the day.

A BUSY 'crafternoon' in Ystradowen village hall proved to be a great success in raising funds for an island in the Philippines that was devastated by a typhoon last November.

The woman behind the fundraising drive is Hilary Carney, who saw the devastation on the island of Bantayan first hand over the New Year.

She organised the event with friends and ladies from Cowbridge, and from as far as Maesteg, came along.

The crafters went home with folded paper boxes, scrap wreaths, appliquéd hearts, brooches, cupcake pincushions, and they also had an opportunity to try rag rugging.

Hilary told The GEM: "The afternoon tea was enjoyed by all and lots of Welsh hand-made crafts were purchased.

"Lots of people helped to make the event a success, with members of Cowbridge Stitch & Bitch, Cutting Edge and Glamorgan Quilters forming a very hard-working team.

"Sorrento kindly lent us crockery, lots of friends baked cakes and made sandwiches, and husbands helped with the setting up for the day.

"The funds will be going to help some of the 80 per cent of fishermen whose boats were damaged in last November's typhoon.

"We are going to have a boat dedicated to the memory of our dear friend Pam Stead who sadly died on Friday. All the members of the three sewing clubs mentioned are really going to miss her".

BELOW:
Learning a new crafting skill!

Business award for new Cowbridge shop

THE Pencil Case, the new school uniform and stationery shop on Eastgate in Cowbridge, has just scooped the award for 'Best New Start Up' at the South Wales Business Awards 2014!

Held at The Bear Hotel in Cowbridge on Friday, September 12, the awards were hosted by TV presenter Sara Edwards.

The founder of the South Wales Business Awards, Wesley Skene said, "Since 2008, the awards have been celebrating excellence in the Welsh business community.

"This year has been without doubt our most strongly contested and competitive awards. Our winners and nominees alike have shown that Wales is one of the leading nations for entrepreneurship and we must continue to champion this cause."

ABOVE: Sally Stephenson with her award.

The Pencil Case was developed by Colwinston mum-of-two Sally Stephenson. She started trading from home in January before opening the shop on Eastgate in Cowbridge at the end of March 2014.

Developed particularly with children and young people in mind, The Pencil Case stocks a wide range of colourful and contemporary stationery and gifts - from pocket money erasers to premium notebooks and pens - alongside school uniform and dancewear for Cowbridge Comprehensive School, Y Bont Faen, Llangan and St David's C/W primary schools, The Vale School of Dance and The Moya Vahey School of Russian Classical Ballet.

Sally said "I am absolutely delighted to receive the 'Best New Start Up' award, and only five months after opening the shop!

"Having two children myself, I know parents just don't have time to go to all the way into Cardiff or to out-of-town shopping centres – they want somewhere local that stocks everything they need.

"The feedback from customers – both adults and children – since we opened has been amazing. They really appreciate the convenience of shopping locally and love the colourful stationery we stock!"

The Pencil Case is open Tuesday to Saturday, 9am to 5pm.

SOCIETY KEEPS HISTORY ALIVE!

THE Cowbridge History Society is about to begin another of its seasons of popular talks, mostly on the local history of south Wales but we also draw on a wider range of historical topics.

The Society meets every first Friday of the month in the Lesser Hall of Cowbridge Town Hall. This year our first talk (Friday, October 4 at 7.30pm) is on the 'Life Of Dylan Thomas, 1914-53' by the well known writer and broadcaster Phil Carradice.

Our programme secretary, Dick Tonkin of Llanblethian, has assembled an attractive list of speakers and topics, including talks before Christmas on the history of the fishing industry in Wales and the Battle of St Fagans and the Second Civil War of the 17th century.

Talks usually last about 50 minutes, followed by a lively discussion between audience and speaker. There are convivial refreshments after the talks,helping to make it into a social occasion.

As part of its commemoration of the outbreak of the First World War in 1914, the society will be showing the film *Oh! What a Lovely War* on Wednesday, November 12 in the Large Hall of Cowbridge Town Hall.

With the irreverent songs that the soldiers actually sang, this 1969 musical film was made by the late Richard Attenborough and is based on Joan Littlewood's production of the original play. It will be open to all members of the public as well as members. Tickets £4.

The society offers members an occasional newsletter and a charter day excursion to a place of historical interest with access to a good lunch. In addition, the society manages the Local History Study Room in Old Hall, which is open on Wednesday mornings.

This is a considerable resource for Cowbridge and the Vale; Betty Alden and her colleagues are always looking out for volunteers to help with its important work.

The society has now completed its purchase of digitization equipment in order to record and conserve better the centre's archive so the need for additional help will shortly become more pressing.

If you would like to help contact Betty on bettyalden1@gmail.com or 01446 773373. Annual membership of the society is £7.50, but single events can be attended for £1.50. Why not join us?

Dick Buswell
Chair, Cowbridge History Society.

Missing years photo appeal

WITH regard to your published old school photo of Cowbridge High School for Girls, I can tell you that this would have been taken in the spring or summer term of 1971, as my year group entered the school in September 1971, and we are definitely NOT in evidence!

I think I recognise a couple of the girls from the year above us, though, who would have been in 1N and 1S at the time.

Sadly, none of my year that I know of has a group photo from our years at the High School, although some of us seem to remember one being taken at some point.

The school morphed into Cowbridge Comprehensive in September 1974, but even then, the only photo taken was our (in)famous sixth form photo, which many of us do have.

Would it be possible to ask GEM readers whether anyone has a High School photo from those missing years (September 1971 to July 1974) and whether it could be published in The GEM? It might make a lot of 50-something ladies very happy!

Jane Brookman, Cowbridge.

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Open Door day at east Vale churches ends with a recital and a peal of bells!

PICTURES BY
IAN DIXON

THE east Vale group of churches, together with the chapels of Trehill and Croes-y-Parc, were open on Saturday, September 13, as part of the Cadw 'Open Door' initiative.

Father Martyn Davies and local schoolchildren started the day with a mass launch of 'Prayer in the Air' balloons from St Nicholas Church.

Hot dogs and coffee were available to fortify the people who later walked via the chapels to St Peter's Church at Peterston-super-Ely.

After a picnic lunch, the packed church hosted a superb vocal recital given by students of Lindsay Gray – including Charlie Price, a finalist in this year's 'National Young Chorister' competition, where he came fifth. A collection raised £465 for the charity 'Iraq in Crisis'.

While the walkers carried on towards Pendoylan, the entertainment at St Peter's continued with a handbell performance, followed by all the east Vale churches bells ringing out at 3pm.

ABOVE: The walkers, about to set off on their tour of local chapels.

The handbell ringers, led by Ian Pearson.

ABOVE: Chorister Charlie Price.

ABOVE: Father Martyn gave the vote of thanks.

ABOVE: Waving the walkers on their way.

Lindsay Gray with some of his students.

HOLLIE (6) AT GOLDEN THEME TEA WITH OLYMPIC OARSMAN

FOUR times Olympic gold medallist Sir Matthew Pinsent met children who suffered from cancer, including six-year-old local girl Hollie Evans from Bridgend, on September 10 at a golden themed tea arranged by charity Children with Cancer UK, in support of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month (CCAM).

The gold ribbon is the symbol of CCAM worldwide and the event, which took place at the award-winning luxury hotel One Aldwych in central London, featured golden eggs, blueberry brioche and playful flavoured candy floss, inspired by Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.

Sir Matthew Pinsent showed all of his four Olympic gold medals to the children, who were clearly thrilled.

Children who attended included seven year old Bethan Evans from Welshpool, who had Ewing's sarcoma aged five; Hollie Evans, who had leukaemia aged 14 months; and six-year-old Luke Everett from Camberley, who suffered from hepatoblastoma, a rare liver tumour, aged six months.

The hotel supported CCAM by illuminating gold on September 1 and have been raising funds for Children with Cancer UK for the past two years. They have raised over £30,000 to date.

Hollie Evans holds one of Sir Matthew Pinsent's Olympic gold medals at the tea in London.

Sister Poppy with mum Hayley, Sir Matthew Pinsent, dad Steve and six-year-old Hollie Evans.

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month is an awareness campaign which stretches worldwide and aims to raise awareness for all types of childhood cancer. Children with Cancer UK will be working throughout September to raise awareness of childhood cancer, the impact that a diagnosis can have and how our essential work helps young cancer patients and their families.

Thanks to investment in essential research more than three quarters of young cancer patients can be successfully treated. But every day around six children and teenagers are diagnosed with cancer in the UK.

That's around 2,400 every year. Whilst survival rates have greatly improved over the past 50 years, thanks to charity-funded research and improved treatments, around 400 children and teenagers still lose their young lives to cancer every year.

Children with Cancer UK is the leading national children's charity dedicated to the fight against childhood cancer. The charity funds life-saving research into the causes, prevention and treatment of childhood cancer and works to protect young lives through essential welfare and campaigning programmes.

To support CCAM and Children with Cancer UK, text CHILD to 81400 to give £3 (texts cost £3 plus std network rate) or visit childrenwithcancer.org.uk

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Happy Birthday

Sarah Smith on 1st January

Photo

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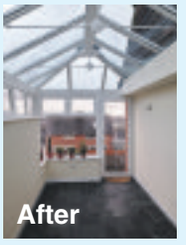
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June 6th, 20th	July 4th, 18th	Aug 1st, 15th

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(4th Saturday of every month except December)

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OPEN DAY & EVENING

Wednesday 1st October 2014

See the school in action!

The school is open for Year 6 parents at 11.30 am when Acting Headteacher, Mr Steve Lord, will address parents which will be followed by a tour of the school. Please contact the school early to make an appointment to avoid disappointment, as spaces are limited. (Maximum 2 adults per family)

Join in – ask questions – enjoy!

The evening is open to everyone who would like the opportunity to hear about the school, talk to pupils and staff and take part in numerous activities. Mr Lord will address prospective parents at 6.30 pm which will be followed by an event programme and tour of the school.

Substantial investment in ICT provides superb opportunities for all pupils

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New Witchell Community Hall is opened

– and it's a facility fit for the 21st century!

Local people and VIPs gathered to celebrate the start of a new era at The Witchell Community Hall.

A new community hall has opened in Barry and on Saturday, local people gathered to mark the occasion.

Sue Illman told The GEM: "The 2nd/4th Barry Scout Group is delighted that this is our new community hall. We are using the hall, along with Bizzie Bees Playgroup, Goshin Karate, Tai Chi, the Ti a Fi mother and toddler group, adult Welsh language learners, PCSO PACT meetings and Treharne Residents' Association.

" I am really pleased with the end result and the hard work of everyone involved has really paid off. Thank you to all those who helped make the Witchell facility a reality."

Among those there to celebrate the occasion with local people were local councillor Richard Bertin, Jane Hutt, the Vale's Assembly Member, and local MP Alun Cairns.

Coun Richard Bertin, who officially cut the ribbon, said: " I am really pleased that Sue and Dave Illman, with the help of Welsh Government funding, helped to deliver this facility for the local community.

" They spent two hard years on the project with the end result being an excellent new community facility for all the local people."

Ms Hutt told The GEM: "It was great to attend the official opening of the fantastic new Witchell Community Hall on September 13, funded by the Welsh Government with a grant of over £280,000.

"I congratulate Sue and David Ilman and all those in 2nd/4th Barry Scout Group for their initiative and hard work, which has resulted in this new facility for the whole community, as well as scouts and cubs!"

The way it was – before the campaign to bring a new facility to Barry.

FLU CAMPAIGN 2014

If you have a long term condition, are pregnant or 65 and over, your immune system might not be strong enough to fight the flu virus.

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Get a FREE jab from your GP to protect yourself or others

This year an intranasal flu vaccine is also available for 2, 3 & 4 year olds along with school age year 7. The intranasal vaccine will be available from early October.

Contact your surgery to make a suitable appointment.

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WEEKENDS: Saturday 4.10.14 & 18.10.14

Highlight Park Medical Practice. Tel 01446 720100
Appointments Only from 29th September

The Waterfront Medical Centre. Tel 01446 734121
Saturday Mornings – 4th & 11th October – Appointment Only.
Can start booking from 15.09.14. Please ring for other available dates.

West Quay Medical Centre. Tel: 01446 722792
Appointments available from 22nd September

Court Road Surgery. Tel 01446 733181
Appointments available from 29th September plus some SATURDAY dates. Please contact the surgery for more details.

Station Road Surgery Penarth. Tel: No: 02920-712048
Saturday 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th October
Please call for an appointment

Stanwell Road Health Centre. Tel 029 207 03039
Clinics Monday – Friday from 22nd September

Dinas Powis Medical Centre. Tel: 029 20512293
Appointments available from 29th September

Eryl Surgery - APPOINTMENT ONLY
Llantwit Major – 01446 793444
St Athan - 01446 751010
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Cowbridge & Vale Medical Practice. Tel 01446 772237
Saturday Mornings 4th and 18th October

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Head Teacher Gerard McNamara and staff invite you to the annual

OPEN EVENING

Thursday 25 September 2014 from 5pm – 7pm

Sports Day at Jenner Park

GCSE Geologists on a fieldtrip

Year 7 artists with work inspired by national flags

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Academic success and the continuous raising of standards is at the forefront of the school's development. A Level and GCSE success at the highest level was evident again this year. We provide a broad well-balanced GCSE curriculum, in which all students succeed. Mixed provision at sixth form and selected classes at KS4 leads to significant choice for our learners.

Support for students to achieve their full potential is in place from the first day they arrive at school – in many cases a great deal of preparation will have gone on before your child arrives - and the opportunities available outside the classroom are numerous.

The school's International School Award from the British Council, and recent visits to Kenya and Sri Lanka, reflects how strong our links are globally and we are also proud to be an integral part of the local community. Every learner who joins us should aspire to involve himself in all aspects of school life as the opportunities for students are wide and varied.

Please take some time to look at our website at www.barrycomp.com, but nothing beats a visit, so please join us on the 25th September. We are also happy for you to make an appointment to come and meet us.

Year 11 students working on numeracy skills with their parents in an evening mentoring session

Phil Steele joined us to help celebrate student success at Presentation Evening

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LOCAL CHEF'S RECIPE WILL MAKE YOUR MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING SPECIAL!

Right; A special cake for a special charity.

WITH people around the Vale making plans to fundraise for Macmillan Cancer Support by holding coffee mornings, the charity is offering a little something in return.

Sam Pepper, the head chef at Oscars in Cowbridge, has provided his recipe for a delicious cake to make the coffee morning special – a butternut and lemon sponge cake with rose icing!

Here are Sam's step by step instructions:

For the sponge.
250g grated butternut squash.
2 large eggs.
125 ml vegetable oil.
150g caster sugar.
zest of half lemon.
225g self raising flour.
1 heaped teaspoon of baking powder.

For the icing.
300g cream cheese.
125g icing sugar.
juice from half the lemon.
1/2 tsp of rosewater.
Greased and lined loaf tin.
Preheat the oven to 180 degrees/gas 4.

Once you have grated the butternut, place in a tea towel, gather the corners and twist so as to squeeze the squash and remove some of the juice. There won't be much.

Put the eggs, oil, sugar and lemon zest in a bowl and beat until creamy, either by hand or (my advice) an electric blender or mixer. Then add the flour and baking powder, beat till well combined and then finally add in the butternut.

When all has been mixed, pour into the loaf tin and put in the oven on the middle shelf for 30 minutes. When the time is up check with a metal skewer or small knife that its done.

The skewer should be clean when removed from the sponge and scalding hot for at least 10 seconds – but be careful not to burn yourself.

Let the cakes cool for 10 minutes in the tins, then remove them to a wire rack to go cold.

For the icing, combine the cheese, sugar, lemon juice and rosewater and blend till all the icing sugar is incorporated and smooth.

Carefully slice the loaf in half, parallel to the base. Use half the mix to sandwich the cakes together and the remainder to pour over the top.

Chill if the icing is a little runny.

SPECTRUM SINGERS' CHURCH CONCERT

SPECTRUM Singers will present a concert in St Lawrence Church, Fort Road, Lavernock on Saturday, September 27 at 6pm.

Tickets are £5 (to include a glass of wine) and can be obtained from Richardson's Health Shop, HiPlan, Gingers and Bojangles, or at the door.

St Lawrence will hold a harvest thanksgiving service on September 28 at 3pm. All enquiries to 029 20701303.

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Tours start at 4 or 4.30pm.

The 2014 GCSE results show improvement even on last year's outstanding results:
- **97%** achieved the equivalent of 5 A*-C grades
- **60%** achieved 5 A*-C including Maths & English

The overall pass rate at A Level was nearly **100%**
- **39%** achieved A*/A Grade or equivalent
- **76%** achieved above C Grade

South Wales Echo "Real Schools Guide" – Pencoed Comprehensive ranked the top school in the Bridgend Authority, ranked 5th in the Top Ten Schools!

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Thousands enjoyed the wartime weekend

The pictures on this page were taken by MIKE WILCOCK.
They are available to order from wilcock60@aol.com or telephone 01446 774502.

THE recent Wartime Weekend in Barry proved a huge success with thousands of people descending on the town and Island to discover more about life during the world wars.

The icing on the cake was a stunning display by the Red Arrows who hurtled across the sky in perfect formation.

Llantrisant Probus Club

Club members on a recent visit to Penderyn Distillery

LLANTRISANT Probus Club meets every third Tuesday of the month, from 10.30am to 12 noon, at the Pontyclun Rugby Club and attracts reasonable attendance to enjoy fellowship and to hear speakers on a wide range of subjects.

On October 21, John Evans will speak about the Panama Canal, on November 18, Gavin Davies's subject will be 'Criminals of the 18th century' and on December 16, John Haskell will speak on 'Rowing the Atlantic'.

Newcomers are always welcome to join us in the comfortable surroundings of the club house.

YOUTH THEATRE SET FOR SMASH HIT FOLLOW-UP!

Some of the cast.

AFTER the resounding success of last year's *Les Miserables*, Stage Door 1 Youth Theatre are putting the finishing touches to their latest show, *Jesus Christ Superstar.*

One of Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's most popular musicals, it tells the story of the events leading to Jesus' crucifixion, through the eyes of Judas.

Spokesman Michael Peters said: "Stage Door 1 has gone from strength-to-strength in the last few years, which is only emphasised by the talent and commitment of the young people that we work with.

"We are incredibly proud of all their hard work and would like to remind them, once again, that they are truly phenomenal!

"Through tears and laughter, you inspire and motivate us. For that, we are eternally grateful."

For tickets for this production which runs from October 3 – 5 at St Donat's Arts Centre, call 01446 799100 or visit www.stdonats.com.

ABOVE: Jesus – Kyle John (15) and Judas – Sebastian Lewis (16).

WI has a 75th birthday party

DINAS POWYS WI celebrates its 75th anniversary this year with a number of events, the latest being a tea party.

President Beti Digby welcomed guests from the Glamorgan Federation of WIs, vice chairs Anne Davies and Anne Jones, Federation secretary June Humphry and WI advisor Marilyn Tucker.

Other guests included representatives from Culverhouse Cross and Wenvoe WIs and past members.

Entertainment was provided by Penny Weedon Kerr on electronic keyboard and refreshments were served by the WI committee.

New members are welcome at WI meetings on the first Tuesday of each month at the Lee Hall, Britway Road, Dinas Powys, at 7.30pm. **JD**

What a lovely bunch of carrots!

THIS bunch of carrots won first prize in the recent Wick Horticultural Society show for the funniest vegetable. It was grown by novice gardener Alun Morgan of Wick, at his first attempt!

Commemorating the centenary of the First World War

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

Local church memorial recalls the sacrifice made during the Great War

DR JONATHAN HICKS uncovers more information regarding the service of local men during 1914-18.

FURTHER to my recent article in The GEM on the First World War memorial, previously situated in Trinity Street Church, Barry, I was contacted by Margaret White, a member of the congregation, who informed me that another memorial in the church lists additional Barry men who attended the church and who died as a result of The Great War. I am grateful for her assistance.

Private Norman Nicholas Daniel served with the 1/4th Battalion of the Welsh Regiment. He died in October 1914, aged 21, in an accident whilst training at Camp Scoverton, Fort Neyland in Pembrokeshire.

His battalion had been mobilised in August at the start of the war and he had been living at 'The Elms' in Harbour Road in Barry. Norman was originally from Cardigan, where his parents were still living, and it is probably for this reason that he does not appear on the Roll of Honour in Barry Memorial Hall. He was buried in Cardigan Cemetery.

Second Lieutenant Raymond Evans of the 9th Battalion of the South Wales Borderers (attached to the 4th Battalion) was killed in action on January 12, 1917 in Mesopotamia. The battalion report said: "On the evening of January 11, the 4th Bn. S.W.B. were sent up to dig a new trench 250 yards further forward. It was bright moonlight and the working parties were clearly visible to the Turks, who maintained a steady fire; but, to the Divisional Commander's great satisfaction, this did not prevent the 4th from having the trenches fit for occupation by morning, though the night cost the battalion a dozen casualties, including Second Lieutenant R Evans killed and Second Lieutenant Lewis wounded."

Raymond's parents lived in Gaen Street and he had attended the County School in Barry before studying for a degree in Science and Mining at University College, Cardiff. He subsequently worked as a mining engineer. Raymond was Barry's first King's Scout and he also played for Barry Rugby Club.

He is commemorated on three local church memorials: Trinity Street, Windsor Road United Reformed Church and All Saints – testament perhaps to the variety of religious beliefs in his family? Raymond now lies in Amara War Cemetery in Iraq.

Two brothers are remembered on this plaque – Archibald and Sidney Jenkins. Lance Corporal Sidney Jenkins died of his wounds on April 28, 1917, aged 25. He had served with the 1st Battalion of the Honourable Artillery Company. After winning the John Cory Memorial Scholarship to Barry County School, Sidney gained a degree at University College, Cardiff and became a schoolmaster at Hippenholme Secondary School in Yorkshire and then the classics master at Friends' School, Saffron Walden in Essex.

He joined the army in August 1915 and arrived in France in December that year. He was wounded in April 1917 at Oppy and died four days later. Sidney had refused a commission in order to serve in the ranks and now lies buried in Etaples Military Cemetery in France.

His brother Archibald, aged 26, was a sailor aboard the *SS Romford* on 10 February 1918. His ship was on its way from Barry to Tunis and Bizerta when it struck a mine off Cape Carthage in the Mediterranean, laid by the German submarine UC-67 commanded by Karl Neumann. 28 of the crew were killed, including Archibald Jenkins. There were five other Barry men lost as well. Like so many sailors, Archie's body was never found.

James Hervey Jones died on December 14, 1916. A merchant seaman who was living at 11 Oxford Street in Barry, before the war he had been an engine fitter. Aged 38, he was killed when his ship the *SS Russian* was torpedoed and sunk by the UB-43, 210 miles east of Malta while on a voyage from Salonika to Newport in ballast.

There were 28 casualties. James is not listed on Barry's Roll of Honour in the Memorial Hall.

Lieutenant George More died on October 2, 1917 while serving with the 7th Battalion of the Welsh Regiment. The battalion, which was a cyclists battalion, remained in the UK throughout the war.

It moved to Berwick and Montrose in 1914, thence to Saltburn (1915), Seaton Carew (early 1917) and Middlesbrough from mid-1917 where it formed part of the Tees Garrison. George possibly died of illness while serving in the northeast.

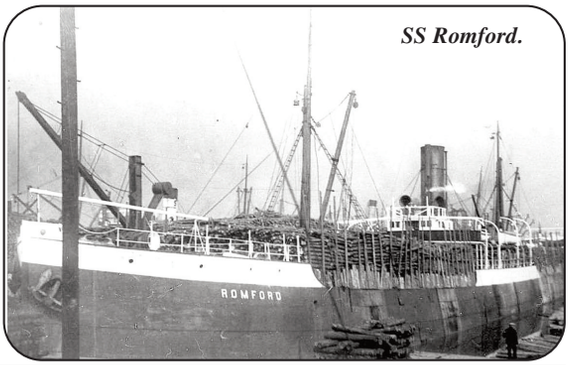
If readers have any further information regarding these men I should be glad to hear from them via my website: *www.jonathanhicks.co.uk*.

Trinity Street Church also contains a wooden pulpit, originally located in Bethel Church in Court Road. This lists the names of 25 men of the congregation who served in The Great War and, in some cases, died – a sad echo of those dreadful events a century ago.

Dr Hicks's book 'Barry and the Great War',is available in local libraries.

Raymond Evans.

Archie Jenkins.



SS Romford.

RAF supports Nato summit

Students from 4SofTT with the Merlin.

DURING the Nato summit MoD St Athan became home to an increased number of Service personnel brought in to support operations at the Celtic Manor Resort.

RAF personnel from RAF Benson, RAF Brize Norton, RAF Honington, RAF Northolt, RAF Odiham and members of the Tactical Air Traffic Control provided air and ground security and support.

As well as the normal air traffic movements that St Athan generates there were also three Merlin helicopters and support personnel from 28 Squadron (28 Sqn) from RAF Benson, Oxfordshire working around the clock ready to lift the helicopters at a moment's notice if required.

MoD St Athan, home to the RAF's Number 4 School of Technical Training (4SofTT), trains airmen and women in specialist ground trades in support of air power so the helicopters provided a welcome diversion to what was a very busy and not so ordinary week.

As RAF trainees from the school are at the beginning of their careers many had not had air experience in helicopters, something that 28 Squadron were happy to help with and none of their training flights took off empty.

During the week all the students were given the opportunity to experience helicopter travel, many for the first time.

In addition, as a thank you to the support staff who had worked hard in supporting the MoD St Athan contribution to the Nato summit, a number of civil servants also got a once in a lifetime chance to fly in the Merlins.

Although it could never be classed as luxury the Merlin's cabin can accommodate up to 24 fully-equipped combat troops and is fitted with an active vibration-damping system, which reduces the level of noise and vibration inside the cabin to a level no greater than that of a turboprop aircraft.

It can also convert to carry 16 stretchers for casualty evacuation or during humanitarian and disaster relief operations.

One young man who got a closer look than he had expected was Cameron Millar whose Mum, Royal Air Force Chief Technician Lisa Millar, took him for a surprise visit to see the helicopters on the tarmac.

He was even more surprised when one of the Merlin crew offered to let him have a look inside the aircraft and let him sit in the cockpit.

Lisa said: "Cameron was so excited when he was asked if he would like to have a look around inside the helicopter. It isn't something you get to do every day and sitting at the controls was the highlight.

"He is certainly going to have something to say at school tomorrow and I think the smile on his face possibly says it all".

Over the week, MoD St Athan accommodated and catered for over 150 additional personnel working 24hrs around the clock.

Station Commander, Wing Commander Robert Balls, said: "While we are primarily a training establishment, the team at MoD St Athan has once again demonstrated their outstanding "can do" attitude, flexibility and professionalism through their significant contribution to the Defence effort in support of the Nato summit in Wales."

War group plan new projects

FOLLOWING their support for events commemorating the centenary of the start of the Great War, and co-organising the Barry Wartime Weekend, local history group 'Barry at War' are supporting the centenary of Belle Vue Park, Penarth.

"This winter, some of the team will be working on a project to research the role of the Royal Air Force on the ground during the Normandy campaign, and this will culminate with a field trip to Normandy for Cadets of Barry's Air Training Corps Squadron, who regularly support our tiny museum," said spokesman Ade Pitman.

"We are also working on projects with the YMCA, and on the many armed conflicts that have affected the region since 1945, but will continue to support the region's Great War commemorations.

"We have started work on how we can support the commemoration of the Centenary of the Battle of the Somme, in July 2016, and we hope that we will be successful in locating a larger premises in which to create a suitable Great War Commemoration Centre by then.

"We are also working on a suitable commemoration experience for the 70th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day (VE Day) next March," Ade revealed.

The Glamorgan Wartime Heritage Centre holds its next Sunday open day on Sunday, October 12, displaying its collection of over 120 model Royal Air Force aircraft, as part of Royal Air Force Day.

Find out more by visiting the website at www.barryatwar.info, or call into museum at Barry Island Railway Station.

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Live a life of adventure *with Maria Leijerstam*

Double world record holder Maria Leijerstam from the Vale, founder of the Burn Series of multisport events and qualified personal trainer, inspires you with a weekly column on simple family sporting adventures in the beautiful countryside of south Wales.

THE entries are rolling in and so are the questions so here are a few more answers to your questions about Mini Burn Multisport Family event at Margam Park on October 11.

Is the Mountain Biking really difficult and will my eight-year-old manage?

My first answer to this question is always that you, as the parent, are always best placed to make a judgement on the fitness and skill level of your off-spring and that's why we set no lower (or upper) age limit for the Mini Burn event.

There are always challenging sections of the course and given that Margam Park is centred around a 350m hill, there is going to be some climbing and descending.

The time limit is, however, very generous and some families even find time to picnic half

way around the course.

There are no rules against getting off your bike and pushing it for sections of the course which the majority of our competitors do at some point. You will soon learn first hand why it's called the 'Burn Series'!

We've also have a short course option which is not so steep or long and is very manageable for all. About 25 per cent of competitors take on the short course. We've even had a five-year-old complete the long course.

What if I get lost? Are there people that can help?

Even though this is a competitive and professionally run event, it is organised in a very friendly and relaxed way. If you ask for help you will be given the assistance required.

The orienteering section is relatively straight forward and for our October event we've added a twist. At one of the check points there will be a challenge that will only be disclosed a week before the event.

There are plenty of other competitors and marshals around the course so you won't be out of sight from anyone for long. We have not lost a competitor yet!

How do I enter?

That's a very easy answer! Go to www.burnseries.co.uk, select 'Mini Burn - October, 11' on the right hand column and you'll see all details about the event, including past event maps and a button that says 'enter now'.

Can you briefly explain how the day works?

Hopefully you are ready for an adventure! Prior to the event you will be sent an online booklet explaining the whole event. You will also be given a start time.

You are asked to turn up 20 minutes prior to your start time. When you arrive, you will come to registration and collect your number and timing chip and place your bike and event kit into the event centre.

Five minutes before your start time, we will introduce you over the loudspeaker and give you a five-minute warning of your start time, at which point you will come to the start line. I will then provide every competitor with a quick run through of the event, focusing mainly on where the check points are.

When you are ready, you then set off. The first phase is a three kilometre run on flat hard packed terrain. This will take you anything from 12-30 minutes.

The run finishes back at the event centre where you then jump into a kayak, with the help of our ground and water based staff and you paddle two loops of the Margam Park lake.

Once complete, you come back into the event centre and collect your bike to set off on the cycle. This takes anything from 30 - 90 minutes. You will chose at this point whether to do the long or short course of the mountain biking.

When you come back into the event centre, it's time for some orienteering. You come to the start arch where you will be handed a map and if you need some instruction we will help you out.

There are five check points, one of which is an additional challenge. Once you've found the check points you want to, you only need to find one as a minimum, you run over the finish line to receive the sought after Mini Burn medal and a goody bag. It's the most sporting fun you will ever have in one day!

It's not too late to set yourselves a family challenge, sign up at www.burnseries.co.uk.

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CHURCH MARKS BUTTERFIELD BICENTENARY

ON Sunday, September 28 at 7.30pm, St Augustine's Church, Penarth, hosts a concert to celebrate the bicentenary of the birth of architect William Butterfield (1814-1900).

The concert, which includes choral and organ music by CHH Parry, Mendelssohn, Stanford and Elgar, will be performed by the St Augustine's Singers (directed by Robert Court) with organ virtuoso Thomas Trotter.

St Augustine's Church, acknowledged as one of Butterfield's masterpieces, is the perfect venue for this concert.

Built in 1866, the church houses an equally famous organ built by William Hill in 1895 and the music chosen is by composers, all of whom were contemporary with Butterfield.

Thomas Trotter is a world-renowned concert organist and one of Britain's most widely admired musicians. He is Birmingham City organist, and resident organist at Symphony Hall.

He is also organist at St Margaret's Church, Westminster, and holds the prestigious Instrumentalist Award from the Royal Philharmonic Society as "one of the foremost exponents of the organist's art".

The St Augustine's Singers were formed by Robert Court in 1995, but was 'rested' during Robert's tenure as conductor of Cantemus Chamber Wales. They have recently been reformed to sing occasional special concerts at the church.

Tickets are available at the door, price £10 (concessions £8).

Cowbridge darts league round-up

ON Tuesday, September 9, the 2014 – 2015 season of the Cowbridge Darts League got underway.

Last season's champions, Llanharry Working Men's Club, started strongly by beating the Edmondes A 7-2. In this match Lee Davies (Llanharry) hit a 180 and Steve Simmonite (Edmondes A) hit a 132, 3-dart-out. Last year's runners-up, the Edmondes B defeated the Edmondes C 6-3. In the other matches the Hare and Hounds lost narrowly 4-5 to the Highwayman Inn while the Farmers Arms narrowly defeated the Old Post Ladies 4-3. In this match Amanda Hole (Old Post Ladies) hit a 87, 3-dart-out.

Present league standings, after one match, are: Llanharry (7 points), Edmondes B (6), Highwayman Inn (5), Farmers Arms and Hare and Hounds (4), Old Post Ladies and Edmondes C (3), Edmondes A (2).

Next week, Tuesday September 23, the Edmondes Arms and the Hare and Hounds will host the first rounds of the Fours: a four-player team knock-out competition.

All matches start at 8.15pm and spectators are welcome. For further information e-mail Paul at cowbridgedarts@gmail.com, up-to-date information can be found on the website: www.darts.apsn.co.uk

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Newydd Housing Association
121 Broad Street, Barry CF62 7AL

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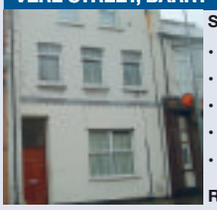

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Bargain £60
(No offers)
01446 701277
38/39

Cream double bed settee - £150.
2 bedside cabinets with drawers - £50 (pair).
Pine drop leaf table with 2 Windsor chairs - £50.
Brown exterior door with glass panes 36"x81" - reasonable offers.
01656 745763
37/38

Oval Pine Table
(Extends to seat 6-8)
& six chairs.
VGC - £120.
Buyer Collects Cowbridge
07975 754833
38/39

Creda Hotpoint Gas Cooker
with double oven, fold down glass lid, white, 23 1/2 inches wide.
£250 (Buyer collects)
Tel: 07815 316005
37/38

2 Seater, 1 Chair Suite, 3 Seater, all recliners.
Cord grey/black. Excellent condition. 1 year old. Cost new £1,459. Sell £450.
07973 939546
(Buyer collect)
38/39

Complete set of left hand golf clubs. Many extras inc bag, brolly and fold away trolley.
£80
01443 775050
07765 036797
38/39

Gentleman's 6 speed Aurara Champion Bike
(As new) £100.
Breville Holigon Cooker
(As new) £60.
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37/38

Public Notice

LICENSING ACT 2003
APPLICATION TO VARY A PREMISES LICENCE

Notice is given that ADMIRAL TAVERNS LTD has applied to the Vale of Glamorgan Council to vary a Premises Licence in respect of premises known as The Tudor Tavern, Church Street, Llantwit Major CF61 1SB.

The proposed variation application is to increase the hours on the premises licence to the following:

Opening hours: Sunday-Thursday 10.00-00.30; Friday-Saturday 10.00-01.00.
Recorded Music: Sunday-Thursday 10.00-00.00; Friday-Saturday 10.00-00.30.
Sale of Alchohol: Live Music: Entertainment of Similar Description: Sunday-Thursday 10.00-00.00; Friday-Saturday 10.00-00.30.

Conditions are being added and removed from licence as per the variation application.

If you wish to make any representations in connection with this application, you must write to: Vale of Glamorgan Council, Licensing Department, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU.

The Council's Licensing Register, where a record of this application may be inspected, is kept at the above address. It is an offence to knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application for the grant of a Premises Licence. The maximum penalty upon summary conviction is a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale (currently £5,000).

Situations Vacant

Are you fit to deliver?

We need fit reliable people to help distribute this newspaper to local homes, once a week:

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email **recruiting@thedistributionbusiness.co.uk**

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Birthdays

Look who's 18!

Happy 18th Birthday

Megan Warburton

19th September

Lots of Love Mum, Dad, Katie & all the family xxx

Happy 10th Birthday Ruby!

RUBY ★ RUBY ★ RUBY ★ RUBY ★ RUBY ★ RUBY

September 20

All our love on your big day

Dad, Karen & Leona xxx

Anniversaries

50th Wedding Anniversary

Heather and David O'Leary

on 19th September

Love Natasha, Bella, Ann, Fay, Glenn and the rest of the family & friends xxx

Family Notices

SMITH

Mavis Celia Roselle

(Nee Pembery)

19.01.1929 - 11.09.2014

Beloved wife of the late Trevor, wonderful mother to her seven children, brilliant Nanny Mav to all her many grandchildren and great grandchildren. Lovely mother-in-law and sister to Peter, Colin and the late Gordon. Sadly passed away on Thursday, 11th September at Southmead Care Home. She will be sadly missed by all her family - love you always xxx

Funeral service at St Owain's Church, Ystradowen on Monday, 22nd September at 11am, followed by interment at The Limes Cemetery, Cowbridge. Flowers may be sent to Thomas Brothers, Greengate, Ewenney Road, St Brides Major, CF32 0SB.

MAVIS SMITH

Passed away 11.09.14, will be greatly missed by her daughter Georgina and grandchildren, Nadine, Sadie, Geraint, Steffan and their children

Love You Always Mam

gemsales@tindlenews.co.uk

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Public Notices

RHYBUDD O GADARNHAU GORCHYMYN LLWYBR CYHOEDDUS DEDDF PRIFFYRDD 1980 CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG (LLWYBR TROED CYHOEDDUS RHIF 5 PENLLYN) GORCHYMYN AILGYFEIRIO LLWYBR CYHOEDDUS 2014

Ar 2 Medi 2014, cadarnhaodd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg y Gorchymyn uchod a wnaethpwyd o dan Adran 119 Deddf Priffyrdd 1980.

Effaith y Gorchymyn a gadarnhawyd, fydd ailgyfeirio rhan o'r llwybr troed cyhoeddus sydd wedi'i nodi yn yr Atodlen ac a welir ar fap y Gorchymyn.

Bydd copïau o'r Gorchymyn a gadarnhawyd a map y Gorchymyn, i'w gweld yn rhad ac am ddim yn ystod yr wythnos yn y cyfeiriad isod, rhwng 9:00am a 4:00pm o 18 Medi 2014 hyd 30 Hydref 2014. Bydd copïau o'r map a'r Gorchymyn ar werth yn y fan honno am £4.50 yr un.

Daw'r Gorchymyn hwn i rym ar 18 Medi 2014. Serch hynny, os bydd unrhyw un sy'n tybio iddo gael cam o'i herwydd, yn dymuno holi ynghylch dilysrwydd y Gorchymyn, neu unrhyw ddarpariaeth ynddo, am y tyb nad yw o fewn pwerau'r Ddeddf uchod (ddiwygiedig), ynteu na chydymffurfiwyd â'i gofynion neu'r rheoliadau a wnaed o dan y Deddf uchod (ddiwygiedig) wrth gadarnhau'r Gorchymyn, bydd hawl i'r unigolyn hwnnw wneud cais i'r Uchel Lys o dan baragraff 2 Atodiad 2 o'r Ddeddf drwy weithrediad paragraff 5 Atodlen 6, cyn pen 6 wythnos ar ôl 18 Medi 2014.

Dyddiedig 18 Medi 2014

Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Datblygu, Swyddfeydd y Dociau, Heol yr Isffordd, Y Barri, CF63 4RT

VALE of GLAMORGAN BRO MORGANNWG

NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO 5 PENLLYN) PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER 2014

On the 2nd day of September 2014 The Vale of Glamorgan Council confirmed the above Order made under Section 119 of the Highways Act.

The effect of the Order as confirmed is to divert part of the public footpath as set out in the Schedule and shown in the Order map.

A copy of the confirmed Order and Order map may be seen at the address below free of charge between 9:00am and 4:00pm on weekdays from 18 September 2014 until 30 October 2014. Copies of the Order and map may be bought here at a price of £4.50.

This Order comes into force on the 18th September 2014, but if any person aggrieved by the Order desires to question its validity or that of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the above Act, as amended, or on the ground that any requirement of that Act, as amended, or any regulation made under it has not been complied with in relation to the confirmation of the Order, he/she may, under paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act as applied by paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from 18 September 2014 make an application to the High Court.

Dated this 18 September 2014

Director of Development Services, Docks Offices, Subway Road, Barry, CF63 4RT

RHYBUDD O GADARNHAU GORCHYMYN LLWYBR CYHOEDDUS DEDDF PRIFFYRDD 1980 CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG (LLWYBR TROED CYHOEDDUS RHIF 36 PENLLYN) GORCHYMYN DILEU LLWYBR CYHOEDDUS 2014

Ar 2 Medi 2014, cadarnhaodd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg y Gorchymyn uchod a wnaethpwyd o dan adran 118 o Ddeddf Priffyrdd 1980.

Effaith y Gorchymyn a gadarnhawyd, fydd dileu'r llwybr troed cyhoeddus sydd wedi'i nodi yn yr Atodlen ac a welir ar fap y Gorchymyn.

Bydd copïau o'r Gorchymyn a gadarnhawyd a map y Gorchymyn, i'w gweld yn rhad ac am ddim yn ystod yr wythnos yn y cyfeiriad isod, rhwng 9:00am a 4:00pm o 18 Medi 2014 hyd 30 Hydref 2014. Bydd copïau o'r map a'r Gorchymyn ar werth yn y fan honno am £4.50 yr un.

Daw'r Gorchymyn hwn i rym ar 18 Medi 2014. Serch hynny, os bydd unrhyw un sy'n tybio iddo gael cam o'i herwydd, yn dymuno holi ynghylch dilysrwydd y Gorchymyn, neu unrhyw ddarpariaeth ynddo, am y tyb nad yw o fewn pwerau'r Ddeddf uchod (ddiwygiedig), ynteu na chydymffurfiwyd â'i gofynion neu'r rheoliadau a wnaed o dan y Deddf uchod (ddiwygiedig) wrth gadarnhau'r Gorchymyn, bydd hawl i'r unigolyn hwnnw wneud cais i'r Uchel Lys o dan baragraff 2 Atodiad 2 o'r Ddeddf drwy weithrediad paragraff 5 Atodlen 6, cyn pen 6 wythnos ar ôl 18 Medi 2014.

Dyddiedig 18 Medi 2014

Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Datblygu, Swyddfeydd y Dociau, Heol yr Isffordd, Y Barri, CF63 4RT

VALE of GLAMORGAN BRO MORGANNWG

NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO 36 PENLLYN) PUBLIC PATH EXTINGUISHMENT ORDER 2014

On the 2nd day of September 2014 The Vale of Glamorgan Council confirmed the above Order made under section 118 of the Highways Act 1980.

The effect of the Order as confirmed is to extinguish the public footpath as set out in the Schedule and shown in the Order map.

A copy of the Order as confirmed and the Order map may be seen at the address below free of charge between 9:00am and 4:00pm on weekdays from 18th September 2014 until 30th October 2014. Copies of the Order and map may be bought here at a price of £4.50.

This Order comes into force on the 18th September 2014, but if any person aggrieved by the Order desires to question its validity or that of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the above Act, as amended, or on the ground that any requirement of that Act, as amended, or any regulation made under it has not been complied with in relation to the confirmation of the Order, he/she may, under paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act as applied by paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from 18th September 2014 make an application to the High Court.

Dated this 18th day of September 2014

Director of Development Services, Docks Offices, Subway Road, Barry, CF63 4RT

RHYBUDD O GADARNHAU GORCHYMYN LLWYBR CYHOEDDUS DEDDF PRIFFYRDD 1980 CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG (LLWYBRAU TROED CYHOEDDUS RHIFAU 40, 41 A 42) GORCHYMYN CREU LLWYBRAU CYHOEDDUS 2014

Ar 2 Medi 2014, cadarnhaodd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg y Gorchymyn uchod a wnaethpwyd o dan adran 26 o Ddeddf Priffyrdd 1980.

Effaith y Gorchymyn a gadarnhawyd, fydd creu'r llwybrau troed cyhoeddus sydd wedi'u nodi yn yr Atodlen ac a welir ar fap y Gorchymyn.

Bydd copïau o'r Gorchymyn a gadarnhawyd a map y Gorchymyn, i'w gweld yn rhad ac am ddim yn ystod yr wythnos yn y cyfeiriad isod, rhwng 9:00am a 4:00pm o 18 Medi 2014 hyd 30 Hydref 2014. Bydd copïau o'r map a'r Gorchymyn ar werth yn y fan honno am £4.50 yr un.

Daw'r Gorchymyn hwn i rym ar 18 Medi 2014. Serch hynny, os bydd unrhyw un sy'n tybio iddo gael cam o'i herwydd yn dymuno holi ynghylch dilysrwydd y Gorchymyn, neu unrhyw ddarpariaeth ynddo, am y tyb nad yw o fewn pwerau'r Ddeddf uchod (ddiwygiedig), ynteu na chydymffurfiwyd â'i gofynion neu'r rheoliadau a wnaed o dan y Ddeddf uchod (ddiwygiedig) wrth gadarnhau'r Gorchymyn, bydd hawl i'r unigolyn hwnnw wneud cais i'r Uchel Lys o dan baragraff 2 Atodiad 2 o'r Ddeddf drwy weithrediad paragraff 5 Atodlen 6, cyn pen 6 wythnos ar ôl 18 Medi 2014.

Dyddiedig 18 Medi 2014

Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Datblygu, Swyddfeydd y Dociau, Heol yr Isffordd, Y Barri, CF63 4RT

VALE of GLAMORGAN BRO MORGANNWG

NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (PUBLIC FOOTPATHS NOS 40, 41 & 42) PUBLIC PATH CREATION ORDER 2014

On the 2nd day of September 2014 The Vale of Glamorgan Council confirmed the above Order made under section 26 of the Highways Act 1980.

The effect of the Order as confirmed is to create public footpaths as set out in the Schedule and shown in the Order map.

A copy of the Order as confirmed and the Order map may be seen at the address below free of charge between 9:00am and 4:00pm on weekdays from 18 September 2014 until 30 October 2014. Copies of the Order and map may be bought here at a price of £4.50.

This Order comes into force on the 18 September 2014, but if any person aggrieved by the Order desires to question its validity or that of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the above Act, or on the ground that any requirement of that Act or any regulation made under it has not been complied with in relation to the confirmation of the Order, he/she may, under paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act as applied by paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from 18 September 2014, make an application to the High Court.

Dated this 18 September 2014

Director of Development Services, Docks Offices, Subway Road, Barry, CF63 4RT

Competition of highest order at the Murch!

IN a much depleted programme, only two matches were played on Friday, September 5, at the start of Murch bowling club's finals competitions.

Ladies Pairs. The winners were G Hughes and E Carryer 21 shots to 9. Runners-up were P Goode and C Jenkins. Both pairs made a slow start to reach five shots all at the seventh end.

From that end on, Gill and Eileen steadily increased their lead, picking up five shots on the 19th end to win the game conclusively. The last end was not played.

Men's Pairs semi-final. The winners were C Salvidge and B Frampton 28 shots to 8. Runners up T Phillips and T Rice. Clive and Bill took an early lead and were never really threatened, increasing their lead substantially as the game went on.

Saturday's games began with *Mixed Pairs*. The winners were M Warman and M Clake 32 shots to 8. Runners up G Hughes and B Frampton. Maurice and Marilyn took a commanding lead by the seventh end of 19 shots to 0, and never lost it.

Men's Pairs. The winners were R Huntley and R Mauchline 19 shots to 18. Runners up C Salvidge and B Frampton. Clive and Bill, having had an easy entry into the final, found this match became the marathon match of the finals, with the two Rogers taking an early lead. A dogged fight back brought the pairs level with 12–all on the 13th end, which then went to 15–all on the 17th end.

The next three ends went to the two Rogers by a shot only on each end, until Clive and Bill picked up three on the last end to draw the score.

Everyone watching was on tenterhooks as the umpire was called to measure a possible fourth wood, as the jack had been moved some distance back.

This would have given the match to Clive and Bill had it been in. It wasn't and with the score drawn, another end had to be played.

Again, every wood was keenly contested and after a valiant performance from all players throughout the game, Clive and Bill lost by one shot.

The whole 22 ends had taken three hours to play, with amazing shots from all players. Congratulations to the two Rogers, but it was truly a match to remember, with both pairs deserving to win.

Ladies Singles. The winner was M Clake 21 shots to 18. Runner up S Mauchline. As the score suggests, these two were equally matched in skill and determination, with the lead changing hands frequently.

Both players showed great variety in their strategies and tactics used to break the drawn scores at 10–all and 12–all. Marilyn pulled ahead for the next few ends and established a two shot lead.

It took until the 25th end for Marilyn to gain the shot needed to give her victory, as Sheila had fought back to bring her within striking distance with a score of 18 shots to Marilyn's 20.

The men's captain Phil Jenkins was called upon to measure frequently as all shots lay close, separated only by millimetres for many ends. A truly exciting match to watch, with nothing to choose between the contestants in skill, concentration and tactics, each employing jacks of varying length and the heads being tight.

Men's Singles. The winner was D Poole 21 shots to 11. Runner up M Hughes. This match began with scores being low for the first 10 ends when it reached 7-7.

David took a narrow lead for the next four ends with Mark staging a sure and steady comeback until the 16th end, when he dropped three shots, allowing David to take a six-shot lead, which he managed to hold onto until he reached the 21 shots he required for victory after 19 ends, with Mark only scoring one more shot before the final end. Again heads were tight with only small distances determining the shot wood from the opposition woods.

Ladies Triples - Winners P Munter S Blainey C Tranter. This game was played as a round robin with the winners getting four points and 43 shots. The other teams were P Goode, P Ayres and M Clake, and A Croom, S Mauchline and C Jenkins.

Esther Proctor Competition - this is a two-wood mixed singles game which was played on Saurday, September 13, and is a knock-out competition. The winner this year was Ian Robinson, and runner up Tony Davies, who played in this competition for the first time.

The warm weather suited players and spectators alike; although Saturday's first two matches were played in the rain, it soon cleared away, allowing good accurate bowling in all matches.

A good standard of bowling prevailed throughout, even if the scores did not indicate this in all matches.

Luck in the form of 'wicks', which all of us hope for at times, played its part as usual altering the course or result of the match.

The president, Mrs Judy Fudge, thanked everyone for their hard work, the bowlers for their expertise and spirit in which all the games were played.

Thanks to the officers, Phil Jenkins, men's captain, for marking the ladies singles, Cynthia Tranter, ladies secretary, for marking the men's singles, the scoreboard recorders, Ian Robinson and herself, together with the competition secretaries Sheila and Derek Blainey for their undoubted organisation in making the weekend so successful.

Derek too was the much-called-upon referee.

Of course, many thanks were given to the ladies for the refreshments provided and the men who manned the bar on this hot weekend, by players and spectators alike.

JR

STARS HOPE TO SHINE!

SKITTLE stars the Barry Stars are once again the only Welsh representatives in the finals of this year's Butcombe British Skittles Championships on Saturday.

The women's team, who play out of the Sea View Club, reached the quarter finals last year at their first attempt. They'll be up against 15 of Britain's finest teams as the competition reaches its climax, and they will face stiff competition. Last year's winners, the Jolly Girls and runners-up, the Dolly Mixers have also qualified.

This year's competition, organised by Shoot Out Club of Torquay, has attracted 150 teams, who embarked on a series of regional rounds.

JB

Barry and District LDS Skittle League results

1st Division: Coppers (J Ward, D Nesbitt, J Hartnell 32) – 335. SV Gals (J Richards 33) – 289; Barry Stars (S Phillips, W Phillips 31) – 331; Castaways (J Tobin 28) – 259; Pila Palas (S Bennett 33) – 302; Family Affair (L Brown 30) – 270; Family & Friends (J Kirby 28) – 229; Allsorts (S Tierney 37) – 318; Colcot Lds (S Howcraft, S Rees, K Taylor 26) – 236; Red Admiral (S Hayes 34) – 319; Space Finders (J Snooks 270 – 252; Cigar Ads (J Price 33) – 322; Baker's Dz (M Wetern 26) – 244; Special Angels (T Jones, I Abram 27) – 227.

2nd Division: Roller Costers (S Spry 23) – 196; Witchill Widows (S Murray 36) – 337; Divas (A Bird 24) – 185; SV Lights (D Thomas 31) – 300; Rhoose Starlights (K Bryan 29) – 271; Strikers (L Goodwin 27) – 235; Vixens (G Turner 33) – 329; Bobby's Girls (L Evans 26) – 214; Cad Con Fillies (A Harrhy 30) – 264; Chickies (L Hassan 27) – 238.

3rd Division: Jolly Dollies (K Taylor 29) – 230; Airways Angels (M Carpenter 24) – 228; Westenders Hill (C Gee 27) – 242; Billies (C Whyman 33) – 281; Dolly Mixtures (L Marsh 25) – 226; Persuaders (K Kemp 24) – 206; Friends & Neighbours (E Western 26) – 254; Rhoose Ravers (J Lott 23) – 206; Rugby Triers (K Britton 24) – 211; SV Lds (G Davey 27) – 266; Lil's Devils (L Bansher 31) – 288; Etcetera (R Dyke, J Barton 23) – 200; Makers (C Rowles 27) – 194; Witchill Wanderers (V Kerslake 25) – 202.

4th Division: Twilights (A Campbell, M Jenkins, P Govier 22) – 211; BFFS (C Rees 25) – 226; Fallen Angels (R Gadd 29) – 285; Odd Bods (K Dutton 23) – 169; LA Belles (N Cordy 27) – 251; Boozy Birds (N Saliba 30) – 269.

5th Division: Hell Raisers (S Norris 25) – 192; Socialites (K Glover 24) – 235; Nite Outers (T Harrhy 27) – 224; Guardian Angels (D Ling 29) – 231.

Doorstep sport project launched

A 'DOORSTEP' sport project has started in the Barry area, aiming to get more young people, more active, more often in their own communities.

The project, run by the Vale Council's Sports Development team in partnership with Barry Communities First, provides activity "on the doorstep" for young people aged eight to 18 who are generally not members of sports clubs but want to take part in sport.

A number of other partners are also involved in the project including Vale Volunteer Bureau, Elim Elevate and Newydd.

Funded by Sport Wales, many activities have already started. At Iolo Park, Treharne, on Mondays, activities run from 4.30pm to 5.15pm for eight to 11-years-olds and from 5.30pm to 6.15pm for 12 and overs.

Thursdays at Belvedere Crescent, Nr Thompson Street: futsal from 4.30pm to 5.30pm and multi-sports between 5.30pm – 6.30pm, and on Fridays at Alexander Gardens, sports activities run from 4.30pm to 5.30pm for children aged 10 and above.

Sessions are led by qualified leaders with assistance from volunteers recruited with the assistance of the Vale Volunteer Bureau. Further sessions are planned to take place indoors during the autumn.

Any young people interested in attending sessions can just turn up and all sessions are currently free of charge.

Anyone requiring further information can contact Rachel Shepherd from the Vale Council Sports Development team on 07730 749485.

Athletic finish with loss

ON Saturday, Barry Athletic played their final home game of the season against Pontymister; they were asked to bowl first and bowled out Pontymister for 212 with Peter Hellyar taking 5 for 29, Paul Murphy 2 for 28 and Billy Usswald 2 for 36, the highlights of the bowling for Barry.

Barry's reply was not good as they were bowled out for 120, with David Goodway 25, Steve Jones 18, Peter Hellyar 14 (including a towering straight six off Salman) and captain Gee with 14 not out.

Barry finished in mid table.

The Second XI travelled to Pontymister with a scratch side and bowled out Pontymister for 198 after they had been 138 for 0, captain Ashley Baker taking 3 for 48; in reply Barry got 201 for 4, with Reji 50, Lee Morgan 42 not out and Ashley Baker 35 not out.

This Saturday, Barry Athletic Cricket Club have their presentation evening at the clubhouse from 8.30pm.

The AGM will then be held at the same venue on Friday, September 26, from 7.30pm and all players and members are asked to attend as 2015 is a big year with the club celebrating its 125th anniversary.

MR

Famous riders from the Vale
EVAN WILLIAMS

ONE of the most successful National Hunt jockeys of his time was Evan Williams, who hailed from Cowbridge.

The son of Fred Williams, the popular starter at Cardiff's Ely Racecourse and mine host of the Bear Hotel, Evan won two Cheltenham Gold Cups and a Grand National.

He also set an unusual record of sorts when at Cardiff on Easter Monday 1933 he rode the first winner *Mr Ghandi*, as an amateur and the last, *Vive L'Amour*, as a professional.

Evan was attached to fellow Welshman Owen Anthony's Letcombe Bassett yard when he was asked to ride the legendary *Golden Miller* in the 1936 Cheltenham Gold Cup. *Golden Miller,* who had won the last four runnings of the race had ran out with his regular rider, Gerry Wilson, in the saddle at Newbury less than three weeks before the 1936 renewal, so it must have caused the then little-known Welshman a great deal of stress getting up in public for the first time on the most popular steeplechaser of all time.

But Evan, showing great horsemanship, as well as jockeyship, steered the mighty 'Miller' home to a 12-lengths win over *Royal Mail,* the horse on whom Evan was to win the 1937 Grand National.

Evan's second Cheltenham Gold Cup win came in 1940 when he scored an easy 10-length win on *Roman Hackle* who, like *Golden Miller*, was owned by Miss Dorothy Paget and trained by Owen Anthony.

In the 1937 Grand National, Evan (then 24) had taken the lead a lot sooner than he wanted to so as to keep clear of some loose horses. In fact, on the second circuit he had nearly been brought down by a loose horse.

However, by racing ahead of the others he left them to trouble his pursuers and this wise move probably won him the race.

When asked by the press what he thought about his success he replied: "What can I say? I have won the Grand National, and I am naturally delighted.

"Give the credit to the horse. He jumped perfectly and cleverly. He made one or two mistakes, but they were not entirely his fault. When I took up the running in the country the second time, some loose horses interfered with *Royal Mail* and it was not long before we could shake them off. After that, everything went smoothly."

At the end of the war, Evan took out a flat trainers' licence and trained at Kingsclere. His most notable success was *Supreme Court,* which won, among other races, the King Edward V11 Stakes at Royal Ascot and the Festival of Britain King George V1 and Queen Elizabeth Stakes at Ascot.

He bred *Taxidermist*, the 1958 winner of the Whitbread Gold Cup, while his son Ian bred *Rag Trade*, winner of the 1976 Grand National.

When he retired, Evan went to Ireland where he was a Master of Foxhounds. Born in 1912, he died aged 89 in July 2001.

Adapted from Brian Lee's Welsh Steeplechase Jockeys, Cwmnedd Press, Neath, 1993

BRIAN LEE

Mini Bombers work hard to adapt to new rulings

ON Sunday, September 14, Barry RFC under-10s travelled to Rhiwbina for their first game of the new season.

With the introduction of the breakdown area being the major change from last year the Mini Bombers would have to compete at rucks and become more physical in the tackle.

In the first of two games, early possession was shared with defences coming out on top. The pick of the Barry tacklers was Evan Prosser who put in numerous big hits and was relishing the challenge of the Rhiwbina forwards.

Rhiwbina opened the scoring with a brace of tries but two clear breaks from Barry's Andrew Szuchnik levelled the score at 2-2.

Rhiwbina's third try was again answered with an individual effort from Szuchnik to make the halftime score 15-15.

The second half opened with a Rhiwbina try after a series of penalties against the Mini Bombers for high tackles. Penalties were to be the undoing of Barry as the high tackle count grew and Rhiwbina made the most of the ball, scoring a further two tries and collecting a penalty try.

The Mini Bombers toiled until the final whistle and were rewarded when a turn of pace from the speedy Flynn Baker resulted in a deserved five point score.

Even though the final scoreline read 40-20 ,Barry had gifted Rhiwbina the second half through poor discipline and would have to address this if the second game was to be a tighter contest.

After a chat from the coaches, game two started far more promisingly for the Bombers with two tries from Cian Murphy, one of which was a dazzling run from his own half to touch down with no Rhiwbina player near him.

Prosser's defence was once again ferocious, knocking back Rhiwbina ball carriers and regaining his feet to compete and turn over ruck ball for Barry time after time.

As Barry looked to use the ball an unfortunate dropped pass in midfield allowed Rhiwbina to half the deficit, but another solo effort from Andrew Szuchnik saw Barry enter halftime with a 15-5 lead.

The hosts wasted no time at the restart and scored from their first play to bring the game to within one score and poor technique during the tackle by Barry once again presented Rhiwbina with a string of penalties that resulted in them levelling the scores.

The Mini Bombers showed great character and a break from Jaydn Rowley saw Barry take a 20-15 lead with just minutes remaining a looked like they were going to leave with a win.

However, Rhiwbina were not finished and some slick handling across their backline saw a stretched Barry defence run out of tacklers and the game was to finish 20-20, a fair result with both teams contributing to a fine game.

The Mini Bombers can be very proud of their approach and attitude which resulted in two good games of rugby, and some work on the tackle area, will surely see this group of players gain positive results.

The team would like to thank Jungle Jacks play centre for the sponsorship that has provided them with this year's kit.

CP

Ploughing championship draws crowds to Marcross

ON Sunday, September 14 the Vale of Glamorgan Ploughing & Hedging Society held its Ploughing Match at Tyn y Caeau Farm, Marcross by permission of Mr J Evans and family.

There were 47 tractors taking part, proving that the support for ploughing matches is growing throughout the Principality.

See next week's GEM for a full report on the event.

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

OTHER PICTURES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

Pictures can be purchased by contacting:

E-Mail: ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk
Telephone 07791 228684
www.ffotoimage.co.uk

LLANTWIT RFC RUGBY ROUND-UP

LLANTWIT MAJOR AmmoKnights travelled to Llandaff and both teams provided the early morning dog walkers with a match resembling a season-ending Barbarians outing.

With illness and injury taking its toll on the squad the Ammo Knights only had 13 fit players to play and had to borrow two of their gracious hosts. With tries being run in from all distances it was a shame to separate the teams and unfortunately for the AmmoKnights it was the kicking accuracy at conversion time that made the difference.

The AmmoKnights signalled their intent within two minutes when superb ball handling and direct attacking play saw prop Pete Mitchell cross for the first try. With fly half Ethan White slotting the conversion Llantwit Major were 7-0 up and playing well. Llandaff soon started to impose their own running game and as they spread the ball wide they found space out wide and their winger scampered through to score close to the posts - 7-7 and game on.

A minute later Llandaff exploited the same weakness as the AmmoKnights failed to cover the gaps and within three minutes Llandaff had accumulated 12 points. Llantwit Major dusted themselves off, and looked to get back on level terms and good back play released wing Leighton Pawsey to score his first try for the club.

Anything Llandaff could do Llantwit felt they could emulate and following the kick, Ethan White went on a penetrating run to release flanker Morgan Jenkins who crossed in the corner, making it 19-12 to the visitors.

Llandaff had the last word of the half when following some messy play in the bottom corner, Llandaff managed to capitalise on a Llantwit mistake to score and draw level, the score 19-19 at halftime.

Llantwit Major started the second half strong, with Pete Mitchell scoring following a powerful run that saw him burst through several tackles and sprint home from the 22 yard line to score; 24-19 to Llantwit.

A strong period of Llandaff possession saw them score 19 unanswered points with three tries being scored in eight second half minutes. The hosts, 36-22 in the lead, must have thought the game was won, but the AmmoKnights had different ideas.

Zac Williams, still a relative newcomer to the team, found himself in a slither of space and darted through to score in the corner.

With the deficit now nine points Llantwit Major launched another attack from their own half. Good support play saw Cian Davies collect a pass on the wing and he darted to the chalk to bring the gap to 36-32. Both teams threw caution to the wind in their attempts to ensure the victory and the game ended with a Llandaff attack being thwarted metres from the line.

A good game for the spectators, with both teams keeping the ball in hand and looking to play attacking rugby. Llantwit Major now play their first home game of the season on Friday (September 19) against Old Penarthians at the Recreation Ground, 6pm kick off.

MR

Sunday saw Llantwit Major under-10s play host to Llandaff.

Llandaff are a strong team and Llantwit were kept on their toes throughout the match. Llantwit were first to score in the match, which made them determined to keep the lead. Llandaff however had other ideas, and kicked off their scoring only minutes later.

Fantastic tackling by Tom, Olly and Dylan M, helped stop some great Llandaff runs. Sam H and Logan were chasing and tackling everything. Caleb's excellent clearing out of the ruck area enabled Owen to get the ball out to Sam A and Rhys G who made some great runs.

Llantwit lead throughout the match, but as the final whistle was getting closer, Llandaff were throwing everything at Llantwit, and it took some great defence from Llantwit to keep Llandaff away from that try line. Final score 38-35 to Llantwit, a nail-biting match to the final whistle!

Try scorers: Sam A (2), Rhys G, Sam H, Caleb, and Dylan M; conversions: Rhys G, Sam H, Sam A, and Josh. Man of the match: Logan Pike

Squad: Logan Pike, Tom Roberts, Sam Harry, Iwan Thomas, Owen Hill, Dylan Morgan, Caleb Beare, Rhys Greenaway, Aneurin Price, Rhys Davies, Olly Williams, Will Squance, Sam Alexander, Will Harrison-Watt, Josh Wakeham, Corey Lougher, Cristian Parry, Gabriel Lilford and Dylan Wright.

SR

An excellent turn out of players from the under-9s as Llandaff were welcomed to the club for a home match.

Due to the amount of players on both teams we agreed to play four 10 minute matches. The sun was out putting all the boys in a good mood ready for a morning of rugby.

The players for the first match were James, Corey, Brandon, Lewys, Thomas G, Flynn, Braydan, Carwyn, Marcus and Dafydd; all players played excellent rugby, they were offloading the ball as well as defending when needed and this match was very close, resulting in a 2-2 draw with Corey scoring both tries.

The players for the second match were Corey, Brandon, Braydan, Kian, Tom J, Kelyn, Luca, Thomas L, Kristian and Calvin. Again the boys played outstandingly, really enjoying the rugby with excellent tackling as well as some good running. The score for this match was Llantwit 2, Llandaff 5 - try scorers were Kristian and Braydan.

The next two matches saw the teams mixed so all boys got to play some more rugby. The players worked really well together again some excellent tackling and offloading, and were great in the scrum but in the next two games we were narrowly defeated. The scores were Llantwit Major 0, Llandaff 3, and Llantwit Major 0 Llandaff 2.

You can tell from just watching how much they are enjoying contact rugby, well done to all players keep it up!

MG

Having had their game called off last week, resulting in a training session, Llantwit Major RFC under-7s hosted Llandaff at the Rec on Sunday.

Llandaff turned up with 20 enthusiastic players so it was decided that both sides would field two teams. This was great news for Llandaff but tough going for Llantwit as they played without substitutes.

All players played with great energy and a willingness to run whenever the opportunity arose. Llantwit won overall by 25 tries to 20 (9-6, 3-3, 8-5 & 5-6). Try scorers were Kyle, Jos, Maverick, Dylan and Bleddyn. Joel was everywhere on the pitch, tagging well to stop Llandaff numerous times.

Well done to the team, showing great improvement with tagging and general understanding of the game which should stand us in good stead for the Sinclair tournament at Llantwit Major on Sunday.

It was great to see some new faces attend the training session held before the match, and we look forward to seeing what they can bring to the squad. If you have a child aged 6-7 and would like to join the team please email lmrfc0708@hotmail.com for more information.

Team: Jos Bourner, Kyle Pagano, Maverick Jennings, Norah Griffiths, Myles McQuaid, Belddyn Mitchem, Evan Boult, Ifan Lovejoy, Dylan Godsell & Joel Harris.

IG

Barry Beavers hold successful triathlon!

On Sunday, September 14, the Barry Beavers Disabled Swimming Club held another very successful fundraising Triathlon.

Five individual competitors and four teams battled against each other to be awarded the first place.

In the team event, Stephanie Evans and her team from the Barry Eye Centre was first out of the pool in an impressive 19 minutes. Her teammates Diane Hitchcock and Jackie Sims triumphed in the bike and running events to arrive back at Barry Leisure Centre in an impressive time of 1 hour and 19 minutes.

Competing in their first triathlon, Nick's team - Nicholas Cushen, Richard Colbourne and Mark Eveleigh - finished in a great time of 1.32. Richard Field, David Lalande and Joshua Watkins finished in 1.41 and Adam and Peter finished in 1.44. Well done teams!

In the individual race, Chris Economides, chief swimming instructor at Barry Beavers, who was last year's winner, finished in a great time of 1 hour and 21 minutes, taking two minutes off his winning time from last year.

Patrick Jones finished in 1.23, knocking 10 minutes off his time from last year. Michael Brown, competing in his first triathlon finished in 1.26, Cath Jones 1.50 and to a great big cheer, Robert Lynch came over the line in a fantastic time of 1.55.

The Vale Mayor, Cllr Howard Hamilton and his wife Carol presented the trophies and medals; Barry Beavers are very grateful for all their support.

A big thank you to St John Ambulance, Pegasus Explorers and 372 Barry Air Cadets for giving their time to help at the event. A big thank you to all the marshals, helpers and supporters for making it a successful event.

To finish the event, Sarah, Louis and Joshua Davies did the ice bucket challenge to roars from the crowd!

SD

SAINTS PRESERVE RECORD

BARRY SAINTS maintained their 100 per cent record at the expense of Canton Cross Vaults.

Both teams had maximum points from their opening four games but Saints delivered a crucial blow in the title race with a 2-1 victory in a feisty match which saw the referee show his red card twice.

Saints started the better team with fast tempo football causing problems for Canton back line and cancelling out any threat they offered in return. The midfield battle was intense with both teams picking up silly cautions. Saints pushed on and were rewarded when Nathan Williams found space on the edge of the box to steer a side footed shot into the bottom corner.

Canton equalised soon after with a free kick being fumbled into the path of their player to tuck the ball home. Canton were soon dealt a game changing blow when the referee had no choice but to give the Canton midfielder his marching orders for a disgraceful challenge.

Halftime arrived and Canton clearly frustrated by the red card decision began to harass the referee and another red card was brandished.

The second half started and the Saints pressed and regained the lead. The Canton keeper could only fumble a shot straight into the path of Williams to smash home the rebound for his second. Saints continued to push with countless chances but were unable to breach the Canton goal.

Canton went close with a sweetly struck free kick striking the post but this was their only effort of any danger during the second half. Saints were unfortunate not to add to their tally after striking the post themselves late on, 2-1 the final score.

Credit to Canton and the nine men who battled extremely hard especially their keeper, who made numerous saves to keep the scoreline at 2-1.

GL

Inter action!

BARRY INTER drew 2-2 with Lisvane Panthers orange, with goals from Mason and James.

It was a valiant effort by the team, who worked hadr and fought back well for the draw - the spirit shown by the boys was excellent.

Team: Connor, Lloydd, Aron, Charlie, Josh, Rory, Iestyn, Eski, James, Jacob, Owen, Dan, Mason, Jack.

They then played Lisvane Panthers red and emerged 3-1 winners with goals from Owen, Iestyn N and Jack.

Team: Connor, Lloydd, Aron, Charlie, Josh, Sion, Iestyn, Eski, James, Jacob, Owen, Dan, Mason, Jack.

DD

Point-to-point's strangest races!

ANDREW WARD, back in the 1980s, wrote a book called Horse-Racing's Strangest Races.

Well, in almost 50 years of covering the Welsh point-to-point scene, I think I have enough material to write a book on the strange happenings at some of the point-to-points I have attended.

Take the time when the Jockey Club in 1985 launched an investigation after the handlers of a horse called Captain Equity failed to alllow a routine dope test on it after it had finished fourth in the restricted race at the Banwen Miners Steeplechases at Llantwit Major.

The horse's owner Jim Harkins told me at the time that Dennis Williams the horse's trainer was asked to put the horse on the mobile dope test waggon, but the horse wouldn't go up the steep ramp - "After several attempts the horse cut its leg and that was when he loaded the horse in his lorry and drove off.'"

One witness to the incident told me: "It was quite funny to see the two dope testing officials

running after the lorry shouting for the driver to stop."

The owner, who wasn't present when the incident occured, explained: " Dennis just didn't understand the rules.'"

Captain Equity, an 11-year-old chestnut gelding, hadn't won for five years and was described by form experts at the time as being 'little better than useless now'.

Then there was the time bookmakers at the Brecon Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases at Llanfrynach went on strike after part-time bookie Alan Hughes, of Llantrisant, demanded that he should be allowed to bet.

So what did the bookies do? They took down their betting boards before the first race and downed tools! The result was that racegoers who fancied Call Me Dinky, ridden by Tim Jones, in the opening members' race, were denied the chance of backing a winner.

Hunt-racing officials wisely decided not to get involved in the dispute and that was when the bookies decided to shut up shop.

Hughes told me back then that he had put in a request to join the South and West Wales Point-To-Point Bookmakers Association but had been informed by secretary that he would have to wait his turn. Racegoers, who were already upset at having to pay £5 per person admission to the racecourse instead of the usual £10 car parking fee which admitted everyone in the car on to the racecourse said they would demand their money back if they couldn't bet on the races.

Mr Hughes, not wishing to spoil their enjoyment, said he would give in on this occasion and the bookie set up shop once again.

One of the most sensational finishes I have witnessed happened at the Monmouthshire Point-To-Point at Llanvapley when Golden Gaze, ridden by the legendary Cowbridge farmer John Llewellyn, jumped the last fence 10 lengths clear of Beldora and looked certain to win only to slow down on the short run-in and just stopped yards from the winning post and refusing to go any further.

Llewellyn, in an attempt to get his mount going again, gave Golden Gaze half-a-dozen or so slaps down the neck with his whip it and it was only when Beldora and Thunderwood raced past him that Golden Gaze was persuaded to struggle on over the line.

The stewards didn't find any marks on Golden Gaze and accepted Llewellyn's explanation that he wasn't hitting an exhausted horse, but a doggy one (doggy is a racing term for a horse that will not try whatever persuasion is applied by the rider).

The stewards told him to be more careful in the future and that was the end of that episode.

In what must go down as the most controversial point-to-point race ever (my story made the front page of The Sporting Life, a rare thing indeed for a point-to-point story to make it on the front page of this sadly now long defunct newspaper) took place at the Gelligaer Farmers meeting at Llantarnam.

There were only three runners for the men's open race the prolific grey Brunico, trained by Pembrokeshire's Peter Bowen, now a leading Welsh trainer under rules,and ridden by Ron Treloggen, Alf Mahaba partnered by Robert Rowsell, of Pontypridd, and Zephyr Nights ridden by Tim Jones of Rudry.

Once the starter got the riders on their way Zephyr Nights and Alf Mahaba's jockeys made little attempt to make a race of it which meant Englishman Treloggen had to take the lead.

The race soon developed into a fiasco with the pace being so slow that Brunico refused at first to jump the second fence.

When the three eventually managed to jump the obstacle, Zephyr Nights led at what was little more than a walk. Some racegoers shouted at the stewards on their stand to declare the race void. Brunico led at the seventh only to refuse again as did the other two horses.

The horses continued the race at what only could be described as a hack canter and eventually Brunico came to the last fence ahead of Alf Mahaba and although strongly challenged, Trellogen and his partner did just enough to score by a length in a very slow time of 9 minutes and 30 seconds. Usually the races are won in around six minutes.

When Brunico returned to the winner's enclosure, he was greeted with the loudest cheers I have ever heard at a point-to-point. However, when the other two runners reached the unsaddling enclosure they were greeted with boos and catcalls something that I have never winessed in all my years of reporting on the Welsh hunt-racing scene.

The stewards called in all three jockeys and told them that their conduct during the race would be reported to the Jockey Club. However, the Jockey Club in their wisdom decided that they had done nothing wrong and no further action was taken.

You can send your news and views to Brian Lee at brianlee4@virginmedia.com or call him on 02920 736438.

BRIAN LEE

Skittles league

BARRY & district skittles league:

Division 1: 49'ers (S.Baggott, G.Yarr 30) 307, The Merrymen (M.Davies 30) 298; Barry Park 'B'(B.Batt, A.Martin 26) 274, Cavaliers (M.Weaver 30) 290;

Ex-Servicemen (P.Hellyar 27) 261, Bunker Boys (A.Jeynes 31) 272; Park Lads (D.Morgan 28) 269, Geest (D.Bates 31) 289; The Merrymen (A.Pearce 33) 339, Ex-Servicemen (R.Williams 34) 312. Division 2: Barry Social (G.Dyke 21) 205, Tynny Fliers (D.Snook 26) 237; Exiles (R.Ashford 28) 254, BP.Breakaways (D.A.Coombes 30) 279; Posties (M.Churchill 27) 278, Road Runners (C.Wright 29) 285; Sea View (N.Elston 32) 304, Abercrete (P.Fifield, S.miller 27) 285; The Royalists (J.McEwan 29) 306, Witchill Poachers (R.Power 33) 300; Tynewydd Lads (A.Hillard 31) 287, The Royalists (M.Durman 26) 243;

Willie Wombles (J.M.Parsons 30) 279, Buffs Exiles (R.Miller 27) 251; Witchill Wizards (C.Casado, C.Tipton, D.Brition 32) 343, Tynewydd Lads (S.Sullman 32) 322.

Division 3: Billy Whizz (M.Ingrram 27) 242, K.P.Monkeynuts 249; Castel Boys (M.Burston 31) 273, Billy Bluebirds (R.Jones 31) 280; C.U.D.(B.Rees 27) 273, Commanchies '2' (N.Watkins 29) 256; Cannon Balls (I.Forsythe 33) 317, The Rejects (D.Stringer, M.Dawe 29) 298.

HR

Medal delight for Barry YMCA gymnasts!

BARRY YMCA gymnasts took home a massive haul of 56 medals and ribbons from the recent South Central Novice & Intermediate Championships.

Six of the gymnasts also gained selection to represent the area at the forthcoming Welsh novice finals.

In the Novice 14+ age group the team of Chloe Sullivan, Ellice Stockford & Seren Mirza Davies placed second. Chloe had individual success placing second overall, on beam and bars, and also gained a fifth place ribbon for her vault. Ellice placed third overall, first on vault, and gained fourth place ribbons for beam and floor and fifh place on bars. Seren gained a ribbon for placing fifth overall and a bronze medal for her beam routine. All three gymnasts gained selection to represent the area at the Welsh finals.

Kelsey Cross and Zoe Arnold competed in the 12/13 age group. Kelsey gained ribbons for placing sixth overall, fifth on vault and beam. Zoe placed fifth overall, second on vault, third on bars, and sixth on beam. She also gained selection for the Welsh novice finals.

In the 10/11 years novice competition Evie Wong placed third overall and gained ribbons for fifth on beam, sixth on bars and beam. She was selected into the team for Welsh finals. Laila-Jade Lang had success in this age group on vault placing fourth while Keagan Mills gained a fifth place ribbon for her beautifully expressive floor.

In the 10/11 years intermediate event the team of Bria Karim, Caitlin Meadowns, Erin Gamble and Lara Watkins placed first. There was individual success for all gymnasts. Lara placed first overall and also on vault, beam and floor, and placed second on bars. Bria placed third overall, second on vault, and fourth on floor, bars and beam. Erin placed fifth overall and on beam, floor and vault and sixth on bars. Caitlin placed sixth overall, gained a bronze medal for placing third on beam, placed fourth on vault, fifth on bars and sixth on floor.

Tamzin Williams, Sophia Foscolo and Celyn Powell competed in the Novice 8/9 years category. Sophia claimed a gold medal on vault and a sixth place ribbon for her bar exercise. Tamzin had a good competition, performing particularly well on her beam routine and vault. Celyn gained a silver medal on bars and gained a ribbon for placing sixth overall. She also gained selection to represent the area at national finals.

Congratulations to all gymnasts and thank you to Aimee, Anne, Ffion, Karen and Sophie for giving up their time to coach and judge at the competition.

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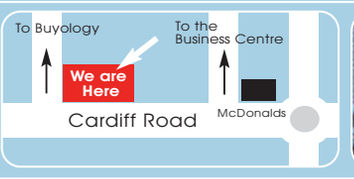

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09 59 PEUGEOT 207 1.4 Diesel with 64,250 miles, in black £5,995
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07 07 SEAT Toledo 1.9 TDi Stylance in black with 30,485 miles £5,890
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06 06 PEUGEOT 207 **£3,495**

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Connery is the gold standard!

The British International Karate Open competition was held in London over the weekend, at UEL Sports Dock.

Competitors came from all over Britain, and Connery Hutchinson from Cogan Leisure Centre, Karate Jutsu club represented Karate Wales Governing Body squad at the British international.

He had two very difficult fights before the finals, where his talent as a young fighter came together to win in the last round! Connery was awarded a gold medal in his category.

He trains at the full time Karate Jutsu dojo in Cogan, if you'd like to know about joining this club visit www.karate-jutsu.org or call Sensei Lee Costa on 07974972479.

LC

Wolves show bite!

DINAS Wolves took little time to settle into this game against Inter Penarth after a stern talking to.

Everyone was reminded of their roles and jobs. The boys certainly put in a professional performance with everyone looking to move the ball at pace. There were some very good performances but Kyle Booker (pictured) probably had his finest game without getting on the scoresheet, taking the man of the match award.

Scorers - Conor O'Brien, Jacob P, Jake F, Jake L, Cole S (2), Joe D (4), Callum H (5), Bayley H (5), Kiean Q (3), with two own-goals. **LS**

Bridge results

SULLY bridge club results, week ending September 12:

Monday, North/South: 1st Trish Tracy/Mike Hurst 56.94, 2nd Peter Millar/ Mark Roderick 56.48, 3rd Charles Johns/Anne Johns 55.32.

East/West: 1st Anne MacDougall/Anne Hilary Jones 56.48, 2nd Pat Verdon/ Pam Sherman 56.02, 3rd Peter Blackwell/Mary Blackwell 55.09.

Wednesday, North/South: 1st Evarard Kerslake/Vernon Pearn 67.59, 2nd Anne Johns/Bunty Wiseman 63.66. 3rd Hazell Craig/Peter Craig 56.25.

East/West: 1st Anne MacDougall/Sean MacDougall 67.59, 2nd Judy Collins/Una Gavin 61.57, 3rd Carol James/Alan James 59.49.

North/South: 1st Peter Millar/Trish Tracy 70.42, 2nd Kay Dyer/Reg Dyer 64.17, 3rd Anne Hilary Jones/Beryl Marke 45.42.

East/West: 1st Sue Knight/Brian Knight 67.50, 2nd Peter Craig/Hazell Craig 60.00, 3rd Pam Sherman/Una Gavin 50.83.

The club's AGM will take place on Wednesday October 1 at 12;30 - this will be followed by a full Buffet, followed by the afternoon bridge session at 1.30pm. There will be no table money collected and no charge for the buffet, partners will be selected by the drawing of cards - please do make the effort to support your club.

EK

Barrivale Bridge news

LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club.

September 9. First, Mark Roderick and Kay Dyer 66.67 per cent; second, Mike Close and Mike Best 63.10; third, Jane Brook and Noelle Bond 58.33.

Mark Roderick and Kay Dyer also won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. Telephone 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry, on Tuesdays at 7pm.

DR

Dinas Powys move comfortably into first round of cup

DINAS didn't have the best of starts to this game against Caerleon in the second qualifying round of the Welsh Cup, when two of the selected starting 11 had to be dropped to the bench after the warm-up found them to be carrying injuries, so Nicky Bruce and King Junior Mwedzo were replaced by Sam Johnson and Joe Briscombe.

Dinas quickly got into their stride, Sam Johnson firing in a shot from 25 yards which Caerleon keeper Richard Lancaster took comfortably and Atif Bashir fed Johnson who in turn found Ben Ah-Mun but he was tackled before he could get a shot away.

This was followed by some determined play by Bashir who, despite having to ride three tackles came away with the ball to lay it off to Luke Swaffield down the right wing, his determination led to a corner which Swaffield took but Lancaster gathered.

Caerleon began to get their act together and a shot from Scott Lewis wide on the left was on target but Dinas' keeper Perks collected comfortably.

On the 22 minute mark Dinas took the lead, a strong run down the left flank by Joe Briscombe, he beat the full back and put in a great cross to Johnson at the far post to volley the ball home from six yards for the opener.

Dinas were well on top and a further chance came when Swaffield powered down the right wing and crossed to Johnson but his header was blocked by a defender and cleared.

At the other end Caerleon were generally only able to hit shots from distance, Dan Bailey playing in a cross-cum-shot into the Dinas box from 35 yards but Perks took the ball high under his crossbar and the Dinas defence were rarely troubled with Bloxham, Marr and Lazarou all in fine form.

A half chance did come Caerleon's way, Scott Lewis finding Liam Head in a dangerous position but skipper Bloxham was there to once again clear the Dinas lines.

Johnson was making some excellent runs for Dinas and he almost got on the end of another cross from Swaffield but the towering Lancaster just beat him to it. On the half-hour mark persistence by Ah-Mun won Dinas another corner but again it was unproductive.

There was a bit of a scare for Dinas as a scramble ensued in front of their goal but Caerleon couldn't get a shot away and Perks eventually grabbed the ball. A further half chance came their way when Liam Head found Dan Bailey who got a shot away but it was well wide and when they forced a corner, Head sliced it behind the Dinas goal.

The nearest Caerleon got to scoring was when a cross from the right reached Jamie Davies; he shot low and just inside the post but Perks dived to his left to make a fine save. Caerleon's Matt Compton then sustained an injury and had to be replaced by Kade McConville.

Dinas kept pressing and the second goal came with just seconds of the half remaining. Briscombe was again the provider with another good run and cross which Johnson buried in the back of the net to bag his brace and as the half-time whistle went Dinas were well worth the lead.

Caerleon started the second half with a bit more purpose, Jamie Davies getting an early shot in which was wide and their passing was good but the final ball was missing and Dinas began to get on top again with Bashir, Rhodri Foote and Keiron James battling away in midfield and James causing problems for the hosts with his strong jinking runs into the area.

Some excellent passing by Dinas culminated with Johnson and Ah-Mun combining to find Swaffield and he put in a dangerous cross but it was cleared and Johnson and Ah-Mun combined again a couple of minutes later to put James in on goal but his first touch was too strong and a defender cleared the danger before he could get a shot away.

Next it was James' turn to put in a good cross. After some excellent link-up play, he found Johnson but he was disposessed by the overworked Caerleon defence. The hosts then made a change, Liam Head being replaced by Ben Wooten.

The pressure continued with Rhodri Foote threading a ball through to James who was fouled on the edge of the box. The free kick taken by Briscombe hit the wall and the chance was gone. With 20 minutes remaining Dinas rang the changes, Briscombe being replaced by Khalid Inyang.

McConville didn't make the most of a chance he had for the hosts when James slipped and he got a powerful shot away which was straight at Perks who took it easily. Their number 6 Dan Bailey was then booked for a high tackle.

Jack Coles then entered the fray for Dinas, replacing Foote with 10 minutes remaining. The writing was really on the wall then for the hosts after Bailey received his marching orders for a second bookable offence for a foul on Bashir.

Dinas soon made their man advantage tell, Johnson chipping the ball through to Ah-Mun who hit a great shot for 3-0. And just a couple of minutes later Jack Coles threaded the ball in to Ah-Mun who then laid it off to Johnson to grab his hat-trick and give Dinas a 4-0 lead. They kept the ball well for the final five minutes to progress into round one.

This was a superb all round team performance which managers Lee Saunders and Richie Garland were delighted with.

Squad. 1 Jack Perks, 2 Luke Swaffield, 3 Sam Johnson (3), 4 James Bloxham (c), 5 James Marr, 6 Mike Lazarou, 7 Joe Briscombe, 8 Keiron James, 9 Ben Ah-Mun (1), 10 Atif Bashir, 11 Rhodri Foote, 12 Jack Coles, 14 Khalid Inyang, 15 Nicky Bruce, 16 King Junior Mwedzo, 17 James Curtin.

It's back to league action on Saturday when Llwydcoed are the visitors to the Murch, kick off 2.30pm.

PK

Youngsters looking good in new kit!

PICTURED are Holton Road AFC under-10s; the photo was taken just before their first game of the season and they are proudly wearing their new kit supplied by Floored Genius (UK) Ltd.

Injuries cost ladies dear

FOLLOWING on from last week's victory, Dinas Powys ladies went into this game against Ponty ladies in a confident mood.

Both teams had early chances but nothing really threatened. Then disaster struck, first losing Samantha Saunders going over on her ankle, and then, minutes later, Ellen Phillips does exactly the same.

This was a game changer as Ponty struck from a free kick to go in 1-0 up at the break.

The second half saw Dinas struggle to play their passing game and Ponty capitalised on this scoring, another two without reply.

The club wish both Phillips and Saunders speedy recoveries from their injuries.

LS

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Dinas Powys ladies' final goes to extra time

ON a glorious day on September 7, Dinas Powis Golf Club Ladies' section held their 36 hole Club Championship final between Louise Wilding and Lisa Ryley.

Lisa went three up, but Louise fought back to end the first 18 holes leading two up. There followed marvellous golf by both players for the game to end on the 36th hole all square.

They continued down the 37th hole where Louise was the ultimate victor. Both the ladies were caddied by their respective husbands.

We would like to thank both ladies for displaying such a great club championship and giving us such a nail-biting final. Many thanks to the supporters.

RY

Barry and Dinas all square in thriller!

BARRY RFC travelled to Dinas Powys for the second league game of the season, no doubt remembering they had been turned over by their hosts in last year's cup competition.

As has always been the case these games are always tense, hard fought battles, and this proved true once again. An indication of the tension on the pitch was highlighted by the referee sending both No 8s to the bin after only three minutes. The reversal of the initial penalty award gave Barry the chance to take the lead which they duly did through Scott.

Dinas showed their intention to run the ball at every opportunity and Barry were forced to ensure that their defence was adequate to nullify the threat. Play became scrappy mainly due to an ever-increasing number of penalty awards by the referee, which wasn't helping the flow of the game.

At this stage Barry lost O'Sullivan to injury, Glynn Jones replacing him. The match was really between the Dinas attack and Barry defence played out around the halfway line and ending in a stalemate with neither side able to gain the upper hand. A further exchange of penalties was followed by really the first attacking foray by Barry, unfortunately only ending in a penalty award, again slotted over by Scott after 24 minutes.

Barry were able to attack once again from the kick off when following a 50 yard clearance from Scott they were awarded a penalty nearly in front of the posts, however the same man couldn't put that one over to leave the visitors still six points ahead. The game changed from the resultant drop out when the home No 8 was adjudged to have tackled a Barry player illegally, receiving a second yellow card.

That decision appeared to be the catalyst for both sides as the best rugby of the half was played in the minutes leading up to half time. During this period the home side created a good try in the corner following some good loose play, and in the last minute of the half a penalty gave them a deserved half-time lead at 8-5

The second half began as the first ended with attack and counter attack from both sides with Barry finding it difficult to make their numerical advantage count, and indeed it was the home side who moved further in front following a penalty award.

This was immediately followed by a bizarre breakaway try being scored by the home side, when, with Barry in possession at the back of the scrum, a home player called for the ball which he duly received to score - obviously the referee didn't hear it. This put the home team ahead by 18-6.

All-out attack was now the order of the day for Barry, and when moved across the backs they began to look dangerous; the award for this endeavour was just another penalty to reduce the deficit to nine points.

At this stage with some 20 odd minutes left, Barry's extra man was beginning to tell especially in the scrum; regretfully this supremacy was not recognised by the referee. The visitors were finally rewarded when following a fine three quarter move with good hands Provis scored and Scott added the extras to leave just two points in the game.

A fine drive involving Jones and Giddings took Barry back to home territory where a penalty was earned, the difficult kick being missed to keep the tension high. Back came Dinas and after an inexplicable yellow card and a failure in basic skills, Barry found themselves further behind as the home side drove over from the lineout to lead by seven points with ten minutes left.

Once again Barry spread the ball wide, able to beat a tiring defence, with White scorching over wide out - with no added conversion it was back to two points.

Neither side was finished yet as a rare Dinas attack was rewarded with a penalty to put the lead back to five points with only minutes remaining.

It was Barry's turn to attack and a fine 40 yard touch finder from Scott gave them a platform to launch one more attack. Having achieved success earlier by spreading the ball wide at pace, Barry chose the same option with White once again bursting his way over in the corner, leaving a difficult conversion from wide out to win the game.This was not the case and rightly so as the home side deserved to take something from the match. A 26-26 draw was a result that Barry will be happy with - but the coaching team may have something to say at training this week! **AJ**

Four-some start for The Gambits

IN their opening match in division 4 of the East Glamorgan Chess League, Rhondda Chess Club second team - the Hurricances - met old rivals Barry Gambits.

The Gambits turned up with a largely inexperienced team and after an hour's play, Rhondda players held an advantage on every board. Then the wheels came off the Rhondda juggernaut in spectacular fashion.

First, on board 1, Bill Davies after building up a lot of pressure and winning a pawn, inexplicably lost his Queen against Martin Ricketts. Bill resigned immediately.

Then, on board 3, Roland Humpries playing inexperienced youngster Jason Grice, having won a Queen for a Rook, was ambushed. Roland's queen-side pieces were not developed and his Queen was in splendid isolation on the king-side. Jason ploughed up the centre of the board with his rooks and overwhelmed Roland's defence.

Dave Morris met newcomer David Jones and soon won a piece. Dave chased his opponent's King into hiding but then faced an assault on his own King. Both players were going for the knockout blow. Unfortunately for Dave, he was a move too late and was checkmated.

Three defeats quickly became four as Mike Colwill, on board 4, having won a piece against another new player in Stephen Bonutto, managed to go astray. Mike gave back the piece cheaply and then lost a Rook and a Knight in quick succession to crumble to defeat.

The only hope of salvaging anything from the wreckage rested with Peter Williams on board 2 in his match with experienced campaigner Windsor Lewis. Windsor is a notoriously slow player and as his time started to run out Peter was able to snatch a pawn.

After the clocks were reset, Windsor won the pawn back but Peter had a stranglehold on the position. Windsor had to give up a Rook for a Bishop. In a protracted endgame Windsor defended doggedly and it was Peter's turn to fall behind on the clock. Just when it looked as if he would lose on time, Peter captured Windsor's Queen and Windsor sportingly resigned.

The final result was a morale-sapping defeat by 4 points to 1. The man of the match award had to go to Peter Williams for restoring some pride with his hard-fought victory.

Dave Lewis, Rhondda club captain

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30pm each Monday at the West End Club. St. Nicholas Road, Barry CF62 6QY. The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

DISAPPOINTING END FOR THE CENTURIONS

A 10 man Sully Centurions travelled to Rogerstone on the last day of the league season and were well beaten by the talented home side.

Batting first Rogerstone lost an early wicket when Adam Sylvester bowled L Harry for a duck to leave the score on 7 for 2. But this was to prove a false dawn as A Harry and Holdaway put on 45 for the second wicket – and then Harry and Tutton amassed 144 in a match winning third wicket partnership.

Sylvester was the best of the Centurions bowlers, with 3 for 47, but although a total of 7 wickets fell, the home side had put 318 runs on the board by the end of the innings, with Harry being finally run out for a fine 150.

The Centurions' innings was a disaster, with wickets tumbling at regular intervals. Extras was the top scorer with 22.

The innings was all over by the 24th over, with a paltry 72 being the final score. A disappointing end to the season, but given the circumstances surrounding the club before the season started, it has been an achievement to complete the fixtures with a relatively young side.

2015 will be a challenge, but all at the club are confident it can be a much more successful one, with the valuable experience of this year under their belt.

The seconds match was an altogether closer affair. Hosting Rogerstone 2nd XI at Burnham Avenue, Centurions came up just short in the final over.

The visitors won the toss and batted first and, on a dry pitch, openers Green (48) and Trinder (52) shared a century opening stand before Green was bowled by Ricky Griffett in the 29th over.

Liam Bennett had Trinder caught by the reliable Mark Burnett, with the score on 126 before Ryall (7) was trapped lbw by Tom Pascoe and then Dinesh (42) was Bennett's second victim on 181 for 4. Reece Bennett and birthday girl Emma Davies bowled well for no reward.

Liam Bennett took all of the other wickets to fall, finishing on 5 for 46, as Rogerstone ended their innings on 203 for 7.

In reply, Centurions had a slow start before Ricky Griffett began finding the gaps and soon the runs were flowing. For the second week running Griffett ended with a century, finally being caught off the boeling of Ryall in the last over for 120.

Dave Sylvester completed his 50 not out but the total was six runs short of the target and the season ended with a narrow defeat for Centurions.